Enjoyment For Every Member of The Family

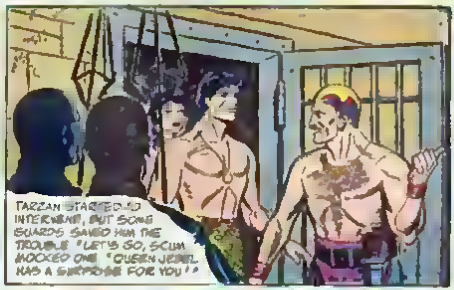
STAR WEEKLY

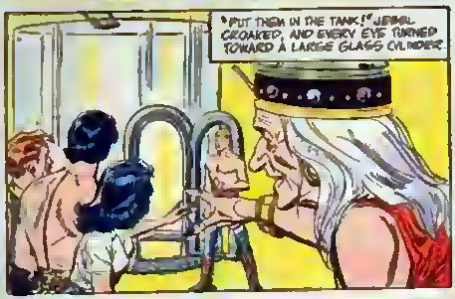
CANADA'S BEST COMIC SECTION
PLUS COLOR ROTO PICTURE MAGAZINE — COMPLETE NOVEL
TWO FEATURE MAGAZINES

Greatest Week-long Reading Value

TORONTO, APRIL 25, 1953 — Forty-fourth Year

Tarzan — by EDGAR RICE BURROUGHS


TARZAN STARTED TO INTERVENE, BUT SOME GUARDS SAVED HIM THE TROUBLE. "LET'S GO, SCUM. MOCKED ONE. "QUEEN JEZEBEL HAS A SURPRISE FOR YOU!"



NOW THE OMINOUS PURPOSE WAS UNDERSTOOD. NO SOONER HAD THE VICTIMS BEEN SEALED IN THE TANK WHEN A GUSHING STREAM OF WATER POURED DOWN ON THEM. THEY WOULD ALL DROWN!
NEXT, "THE DELUGE"

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Toronto, May 30, 1953 Forty-fourth Year

TARZAN — by EDGAR RICE BURROUGHS

ACCEDING TO KEEP MAGY'S TREACHERY A SECRET, THEY RETURNED TO THE OPANDAN PALACE, RECEIVING A ROYAL WELCOME. BUT JOY TURNED TO GRIEF WHEN THE OTHERS HEARD OF THE TRAGEDY. "A PITY, PITY," SAID THE KING. "YET YOUR MISSION WAS TO GET THE DIAMOND. DID YOU?" — REFRESHING HIS DISGUST, TARZAN PRODUCED THE CASKET.

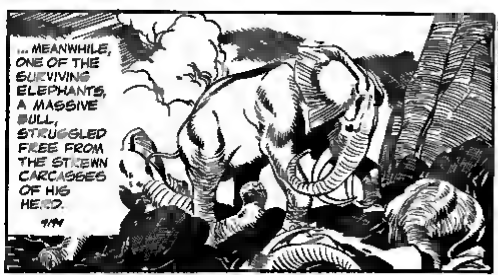
OPAN OPENED THE CASE WITH TREMBLING GREEDY FINGERS. THEN SUDDENLY HE GASPED IN DISBELIEF — INSIDE, ON A VELVET CUSHION, LAY A SMALL LUMP OF COAL!

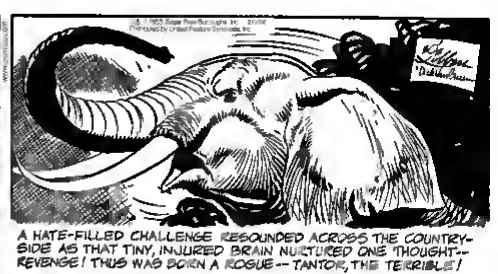
"FOR THIS FALSE AND ACCURSED THING PEOPLE HAVE SUFFERED AND DIED," MUSED TARZAN. "YET, IRONICALLY, IT IS INDEED THE FATHER OF DIAMONDS..."

...MEANWHILE, MANY MILES AWAY, AN AVARICIOUS, CRUEL FIGURE LISTENED TO HIS WIZENED ADVISOR...

"IT IS ORDAINED THAT ANCIENT HISTORY BE REPEATED," SAID THE OLD MAN. "BUT THIS TIME ON A DIFFERENT CONTINENT. YOU ARE TO BE THE MONGOL RULER — KHAN OF AFRICA!"

NEXT... "GHOST of the PAST!"

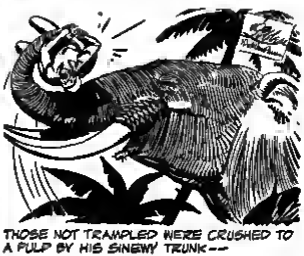

...MEANWHILE, ONE OF THE SURVIVING ELEPHANTS, A MASSIVE BULL, STRUGGLED FREE FROM THE STREWN CARCASSES OF HIS HERD.
9/M


A HATE-FILLED CHALLENGE RESOUNDED ACROSS THE COUNTRYSIDE AS THAT TINY, INJURED BRAIN NURTURED ONE THOUGHT--REVENGE! THUS WAS BORN A FOE--TANTOR, THE TERRIBLE!

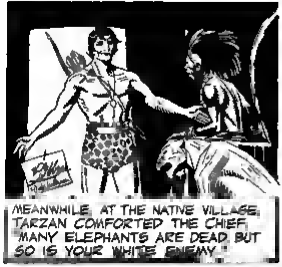
TARZAN TROTTED ALONG A JUNGLE TRAIL, BOUND FOR VAKUBA'S VILLAGE TO REPORT THE DEATH OF WEST.

AND IN ANOTHER PART OF THE FOREST, WEARY NATIVE BEATERS ALSO HEADED FOR HOME.

SUDDENLY TANTOR BURST FORTH -- THE GROUND TREMBLED AS HE RAN AMOK POUNDING HIS ENEMIES TO THE EARTH


THOSE NOT TRAMPLED WERE CRUSHED TO A PULP BY HIS SINEWY TRUNK --

BUT MIRACULOUSLY, ONE NATIVE, HEMU, ESCAPED THE MAMMOTH'S WRATH!


MEANWHILE, AT THE NATIVE VILLAGE, TARZAN COMFORTED THE CHIEF. "MANY ELEPHANTS ARE DEAD, BUT SO IS YOUR WHITE ENEMY."

"GOOD," SAID VAKUBI, "NOW MY PEOPLE CAN RESUME THEIR LIVES IN PEACE--"
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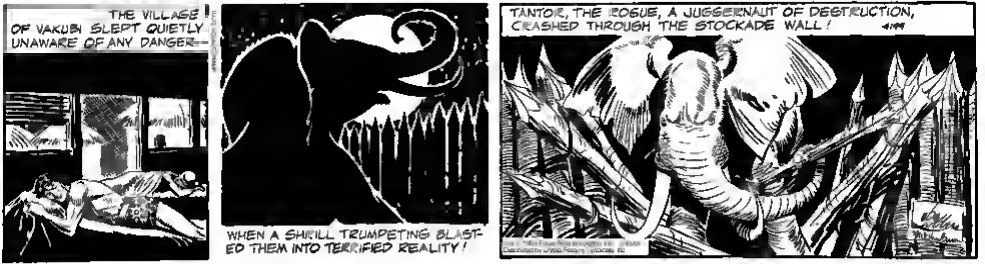
BUT SUDDENLY HEMU RACED TOWARD THEM WITH TALES OF TERROR -- TERROR OF A DEVIL ELEPHANT!
#19

"I CAN STILL HEAR THEIR SCREAMS," SOBBED HEMU. "IT WAS AWFUL--"

"INCREDIBLE," MUSED TARZAN. "YET, AN ELEPHANT MUST HAVE SURVIVED AND TURNED ROGUE. TOMORROW WE GO AFTER HIM!"

BUT AS DUSK FELL OUTSIDE THE STOCKADE LOOMED A HUGE PHANTASMIC SHADOW. TANTOR HAD FOLLOWED HEMU'S SPOOR AND PLANNED TO STRIKE AGAIN!


THE VILLAGE OF VAKUBI SLEPT QUIETLY UNAWARE OF ANY DANGER—
WHEN A SHRILL TRUMPETING BLAST-ED THEM INTO TERRIFIED REALITY!
TANTOR, THE ROGUE, A JUGGERNAUT OF DESTRUCTION, CRASHED THROUGH THE STOCKADE WALL!

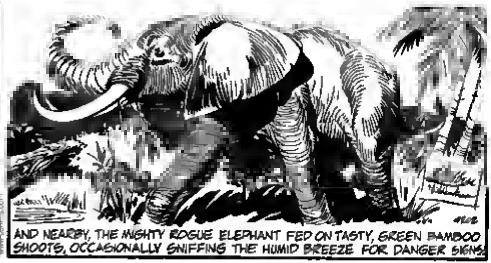
TANTOR THUNDERED THROUGH THE VILLAGE, KILLING, DESTROYING -- THEN, WITH A BELLOW OF TRIUMPH, HE VANISHED AS QUICKLY AS HE HAD COME!

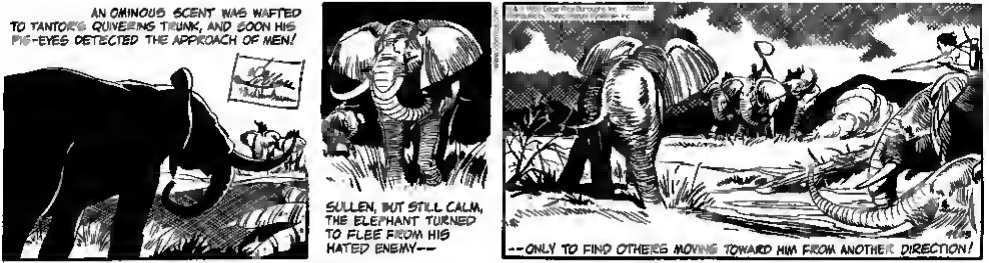
"IT LOOKS AS IF A HURRICANE HAD STRUCK," LAMENTED VAKUBI. "HE IS LIKE A DEVIL!"
Edgar Rice Burroughs' Tarzan
Distributed by United Feature Syndicate, Inc.

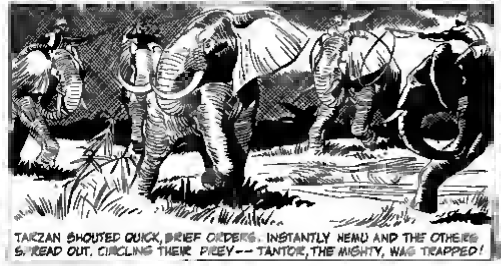
"WE MUST MATCH WITS WITH THIS TERRIBLE ONE," SAID TARZAN, "CONQUER HIM BEFORE HE ATTACKS AGAIN!"

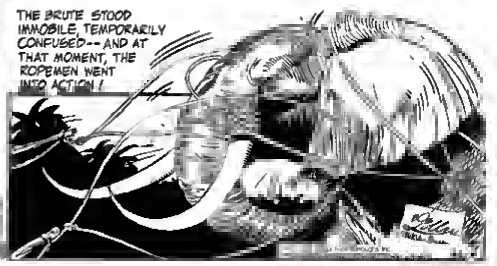
THE MORNING AFTER TANTOR'S RAMPAGE, TARZAN AND VAKUBI, PLANNING HIS CAPTURE STROLLED TO THE VILLAGE STABLES.
"I'LL NEED THESE DRAFT ELEPHANTS," SAID THE APE-MAN, "AND YOUR BEST RIDERS—"
"TARZAN, I AM EXPERT," SOUNDED THE PROUD VOICE OF HEMU. TARZAN SMILED "GOOD! GET OTHERS— AND MANY STOUT ROPES. WE WILL START IMMEDIATELY!"

LATER, WITH KUDU, THE SUN, HIGH IN THE BRASSY HEAVENS, TARZAN'S FULLY EQUIPPED HUNTING PARTY MOVED SLOWLY ACROSS THE PLAINS--


AND NEARBY, THE MIGHTY ROGUE ELEPHANT FED ON TASTY, GREEN BAMBOO SHOOTS, OCCASIONALLY SNIFFING THE HUMID BREEZE FOR DANGER SIGNS.


AN OMINOUS SCENT WAS WAFTED TO TANTOR'S QUIVERING TRUNK, AND SOON HIS PIG-EYES DETECTED THE APPROACH OF MEN!
SULLEN, BUT STILL CALM, THE ELEPHANT TURNED TO FLEE FROM HIS HATED ENEMY--
--ONLY TO FIND OTHERS MOVING TOWARD HIM FROM ANOTHER DIRECTION!


TARZAN SHOUTED QUICK, BRIEF ORDERS. INSTANTLY HEMU AND THE OTHERS SPREAD OUT, CIRCLING THEIR PREY -- TANTOR, THE MIGHTY, WAS TRAPPED!


THE BRUTE STOOD IMMOBILE, TEMPORARILY CONFUSED -- AND AT THAT MOMENT, THE ROPEMEN WENT INTO ACTION!

"MOVE YOUR MOUNTS!" SHOUTED TARZAN. "MAKE THE ROPES TAUT!"
BUT THE LATENT FURY OF TANTOR WAS NOW TO BE UNFURLED! TRUMPETING SHRILLY--
--AND FRENZIED BY THE CONFINING SINUOUS COILS, HE PLUNGED FORWARD DRAGGING THREE ELEPHANTS OVER ON TO THEIR BACKS!
SLOOOSH
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TANTOR'S VIOLENCE CAUSED CHAOS FRANTIC WITH FEAR, ROPEMEN AND RIDERS LEFT THEIR CHARGES AND FLED IN ALL DIRECTIONS
BUT TARZAN, UNDAUNTED, DREW HIS KNIFE AND LEAPED TOWARD THE RAGING BRUTE.
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IF HE COULD SEVER TANTOR'S BONDS IN TIME, TRAGEDY MIGHT BE AVERTED

HOPING TO AVOID TRAGEDY BY LIBERATING THE MAMMOTH ROGUE, TARZAN SLASHED AT ITS BONDS.
IMMEDIATELY TANTOR SHOOK OFF THE COILING ROPES THEN ATTEMPTED TO GORE HIS WAY PAST THE LARGEST DRAFT ELEPHANT!

THE TAME ELEPHANT SCREAMED PAINFULLY, BUT AT THE SAME TIME TURNED IN DEFIANCE, CHALLENGING THE ROGUE!
INSTANTLY TARZAN AND THE NATIVES REJOINED FORCES, AND PAUSED TO WATCH---FOR NONE WANTED TO MISS THE BATTLE OF THESE TITANS!

SUDDENLY THEIR TUSKS WERE LOCKED IN TERRIBLE CONFLICT, AND FRANTIC TRUMPETING ECHOED ACROSS THE PLAINS!

THEN, STUMBLING, LURCHING, THEY FOUGHT TO THE EDGE OF THE FOREST. THE GROUND TREMBLED AND TREES CRASHED TO RUIN UNDER THE WEIGHT OF THEIR GIGANTIC BODIES!
42.29

FINALLY THE TAME ELEPHANT COLLAPSED TO THE BLOOD-SCARRED EARTH, NO MATCH FOR THE FURIOUS ROGUE --
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THE STUNNED ONLOOKERS TURNED THEIR HEADS IN HORROR AS TANTOR NOW STAMPED, KNEADED HIS VICTIM INTO A SHAPELESS MASS --
THEN, TUSKS RAISED, GLEAMING RED AND WHITE IN THE FIERY RAYS OF THE SUN, TANTOR ANNOUNCED HIS OVERWHELMING VICTORY!

TARZAN AND THE NATIVES WAITED BREATHLESSLY, BUT WITH A FINAL BELLOW OF CONTEMPT, THE ROGUE DISAPPEARED, CRASHING THROUGH THE THICKET

SPEAKING FOR HIS AWE-STRUCK COMPANIONS, HEMU WHISPERED, "TARZAN, WHAT CAN WE DO?"

THE APE-MAN GRITTED HIS TEETH, RESOLUTE. "WE WILL TRY AGAIN. THE BRUTE MUST BE STOPPED!"

LATER, ON THE WAY TO THE VILLAGE, TARZAN SUDDENLY CALLED ATTENTION TO A DRY CREEK BED WITH STEEP, UNSCALABLE SIDES.

"I HAVE A PLAN!" HE SHOUTED. "WE'LL BUILD TWO SEPARATE BARRIERS ACROSS THIS CREEK -- ONE WITH A TRAP DOOR--"

"GET THE MEN STARTED, HEMU," HE SAID EXCITEDLY. "MAYBE THIS TIME WE CAN HOLD TANTOR!"

INSPIRED BY A PLAN TO CAPTURE THE ROGUE ELEPHANT IN A DRY CREEK BED TARZAN AND THE NATIVES BUILT A WOODEN FENCE INTERLACED WITH SHARPENED LOGS JUTTING INWARD

THEN, NEARBY, A SIMILAR BARRIER WAS CONSTRUCTED, EXCEPT THAT HERE A GATE WAS PLACED TO SWING ON HINGES -- THE TRAP WAS NOW READY!

WITH BOTH BARRIERS COMPLETE, THE MEN LOOPED A ROPE OVER A NEARBY BRANCH AND PULLED THE MASSIVE GATE OPEN.

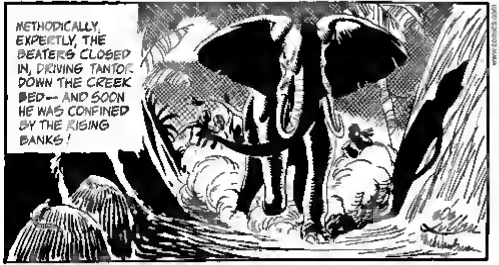
TARZAN QUICKLY MADE THE ROPE FAST, HOLDING THE GATE IN THE AIR.

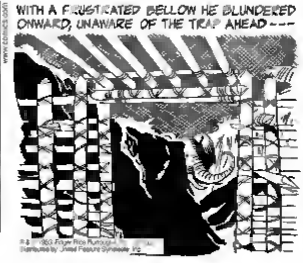
"LET'S GO!" SAID THE APE-MAN EXCITEDLY. "NEMU, CLIMB THE TREE AND WAIT. WHEN TANTOR IS DRIVEN THROUGH THE OPENING -- CUT THE ROPE!"
4.14

SILENTLY AT FIRST THE BEATERS RETREATED UNTIL THEY WERE SURE THE ROGUE WAS BETWEEN THEM AND THE TRAP. THEN THEY SPREAD OUT, SEARCHING---

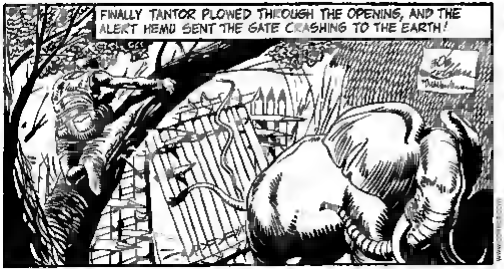
FINALLY TARZAN CALLED FOR A LOT OF NOISE HIS ACUTE NOSTRILS HAD SCENTED THE ELEPHANT!

A TERRIFIC DIN ENSUED AND TANTOR, HARRIED FLED FROM HIS PLACE OF HIDING!
41/5


METHODICALLY, EXPERTLY, THE BEATERS CLOSED IN, DRIVING TANTOR DOWN THE CREEK BED— AND SOON HE WAS CONFINED BY THE RISING BANKS!


WITH A FRUSTRATED BELLOW HE BLUNDERED ONWARD, UNAWARE OF THE TRAP AHEAD---

WHILE HEMU WAITED DEATHLESSLY, KNIFE POISED, READY TO RELEASE THE GATE!


FINALLY TANTOR PLOWED THROUGH THE OPENING, AND THE ALERT HEMO SENT THE GATE CRASHING TO THE EARTH!

FURIOUS, THE ROGUE LUNGED BACK AT THIS NEW BARRIER, ONLY TO BELLOW IN PAIN AS HE STRUCK THE SHARPENED LOGS!

42/7
BUT TANTOR WAS NOT STYMIED BY A PUNY MAN-TRAP. SUDDENLY, CLEVERLY, HE DISLODGED THE STAKES, ONE BY ONE!

THE BEATERS' TRIUMPH TURNED TO HORROR WHEN THEY SAW TANTOR'S MIGHTY TRUNK FLING THE LOGS LIKE MATCH-STICKS INTO THE AIR!

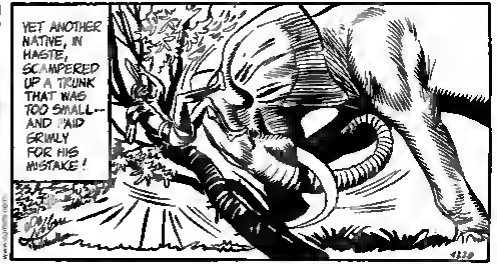
AND THEN, UNRESTRICTED, THE ROGUE SMASHED THROUGH THE BARRIER. REVENGE WOULD BE HIS AS, IRONICALLY NOW, THE MAN-THINGS WERE THE ONES TRAPPED IN THE CREEK!

AFTER SMASHING THE FLIMSY TRAP, TANTOR CHARGED DOWN THE CREEK BED, DETERMINED TO DESTROY HIS WOULD-BE CAPTORS!

ONE NATIVE THOUGHT HE COULD SCALE THE BANKS, BUT WAS CAUGHT BY THE ROGUE'S CURLING TRUNK.

TARZAN FIRED SEVERAL ARROWS IN THE MAN'S DEFENSE, BUT THESE ONLY FURTHER ENRAGED THE BRUTE!

TANTOR CONTINUED PURSUIT OF HIS MAN-ENEMIES, BUT FINALLY THE RIVER BANKS FLATTENED, ALLOWING THEM TO SPREAD OUT AND CLIMB NEARBY TREES!


YET ANOTHER NATIVE, IN HASTE, SCAMPERED UP A TRUNK THAT WAS TOO SMALL-- AND PAID GRIMLY FOR HIS MISTAKE!
4-20

THE TUSKER FURIOUSLY BUTTED OTHER TREES, INCLUDING TARZAN'S, BUT ALL HELD AGAINST HIS STRENGTH.

FINALLY TANTOR WEARIED AND STRODE OFF--SULLEN, MAGNIFICENT, AND STILL THE UNDISPUTED VICTOR!

BUT THE APE-MAN WAS FAR FROM BEATEN AND EXCITEDLY SUMMONED THE OTHERS. NOW, WITHOUT A DOUBT, HE KNEW HOW TO STOP THE MIGHTY ROGUE!

ALL FORCES WERE JOINED TOGETHER AND THE APE-MAN TOLD HIS PLAN.
"TANTOR'S WILDNESS WILL GUARANTEE SUCCESS THIS TIME --"

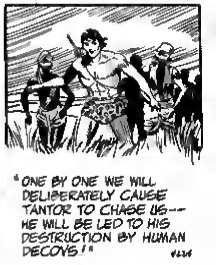
"COME, WE GO OUT ON THE PLAINS AND DIG A BIG PIT."

"BUT, TARZAN, HE'S TOO WISE FOR SOMETHING LIKE THAT," SUGGESTED HEMU. TARZAN SMILED, "NOT FOR WHAT I HAVE IN MIND!"

UNDER THE STEADY URGING OF TARZAN AND HEMU THE FRIGHTENED NATIVES DUG A BROAD DEEP PIT—
THEN, AFTER HIDING THE EXCAVATED DIRT, THEY INSTALLED SHARP STAKES ON THE BOTTOM—
AND, FINALLY, THEY COVERED THE TOP WITH BAMBOO FRONDS AND LEAVES!

NOW THE NATIVES SAW TARZAN'S GENIUS AS HE BID THEM DIG A SECOND HOLE BESIDE THE FIRST, BUT THIS WAS LEFT UNCONCEALED.

"ALL RIGHT, HEMU, THE JOB IS DONE," SAID THE APE-MAN. "NOW SELECT TWO OF YOUR FLEETEST RUNNERS."


"ONE BY ONE WE WILL DELIBERATELY CAUSE TANTOR TO CHASE US--- HE WILL BE LED TO HIS DESTRUCTION BY HUMAN DECOYS!"

THE TRAP WAS READY, SWIFT RUNNERS WERE CHOSEN, AND NOW TARZAN ADDRESSED THE REMAINING NATIVES --

"SO-- WAIT IN THE VILLAGE WITH YAKUBI YOU WILL KNOW IF WE ARE SUCCESSFUL"

THUS THE APE-MAN, HEMU AND TWO OTHERS GRIMLY SEARCHED FOR TANTOR'S SPOOR-- THE HUNT HAD BEGUN!
4-28

FINALLY TANTOR'S SCENT HUNG HEAVILY IN THE HUMID AIR. "TAKE HEED," WHISPERED THE JUNGLE LORD --

"REMEMBER EVERY ANIMAL PATH, EVERY STURDY TREE HEMU, YOU START THE CHASE, THE REST OF US WILL BE WAITING --"

HEMU PROCEEDED CAUTIOUSLY, AND SOON DISCOVERED THE LOOMING, GRAY HULK OF THE ROGUE INSTANTLY, HE HEAVED A ROCK TO INCITE THE BEAST!
TARZAN
Edgar Rice Burroughs Inc.
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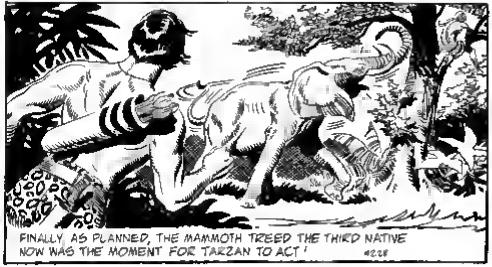
HEMU FLED WITH SEEMING ABANDON FROM THE BRUTE PACHYDERM. BUT WHEN THE BEAST GAINED TOO RAPIDLY, HE SHINNIED UP A PREVIOUSLY SELECTED TREE - -

AND BEFORE TANTOR COULD VENT HIS WRATH, HE WAS DISTRACTED BY THE SCREAMING OF ANOTHER MAN-THING

THE ELEPHANT TOOK UP IMMEDIATE CHASE AND THE NATIVE WASTED NO TIME IN PROVING HIS FLEETNESS!


FINALLY AS PLANNED, THE MAMMOTH TREED THE THIRD NATIVE
NOW WAS THE MOMENT FOR TARZAN TO ACT!
#258

QUICKLY, DEFTLY HE SHOT SEVERAL ARROWS INTO THE ROGUES SLATE-GRAY HIDE--
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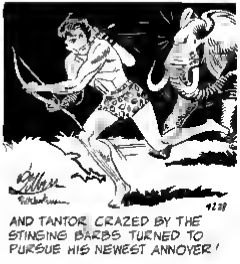
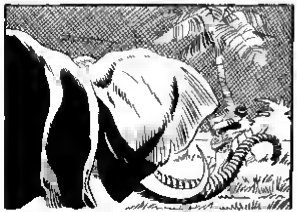

#238
AND TANTOR, CRAZED BY THE STINGING BARBS TURNED TO PURSUE HIS NEWEST ANNOYER!


WITH THE ELEPHANT LUMBERING AT HIS HEELS, TARZAN ZIGZAGGED ACROSS THE PLAINS--

SHREWDLY HE NEGOTIATED THE NARROW SPACE BETWEEN THE PITS--

AND TANTOR, SWERVING SHARPLY TO AVOID THE OPEN PIT, PROMPTLY CRASHED INTO THE CAMOUFLAGED TRAP PREPARED FOR HIM!
4224

VAKUBI AND HIS MEN SHOUTED WITH JOY WHEN THE STRICKEN ANIMAL'S TRUMPETING RESOUNDED TO THEIR VILLAGE--
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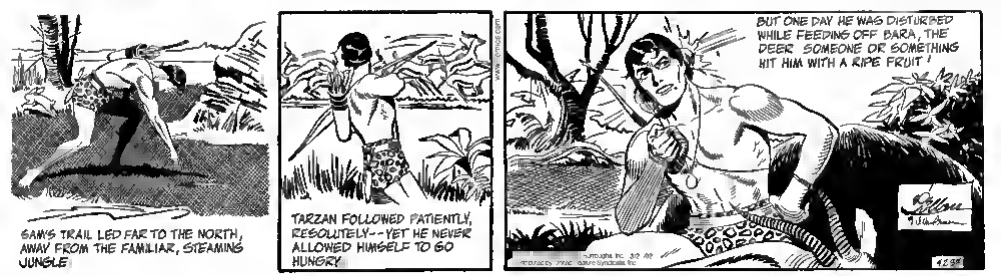
BUT, FINALLY, THE BELLOWING DIMINISHED, THEN STOPPED. THUS, BEGUN IN VIOLENCE, SO ENDED IN VIOLENCE, THE REIGN OF TANTOR, THE TERRIBLE...

AFTER TRAPPING THE ROGUE ELEPHANT, TARZAN RELUCTANTLY LEFT VAKUBI'S CAMP--BUT HE COULD NOT BE SWAYED FROM HIS ORIGINAL QUEST

GRIMLY, HE HEADED TOWARD THE KINDU RIVER. AND NOW, A HATEFUL VISION FLASHED TO MIND--

THE PERSON HE KNEW ONLY AS SAM--THE POWER-MAD WHITE MAN WHO, IN HIS FALSE ROLE AS A ZULU CHIEFTAIN HAD CAUSED HUNDREDS OF DEATHS !

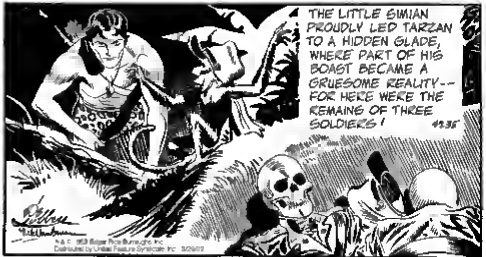
ESCAPING BY BOAT, SAM HAD FLED UPRIVER. THIS PLEASED TARZAN, FOR EVENTUALLY THE WATERS WOULD BECOME TOO NARROW TO NAVIGATE.
AND THEN, AFTER DAYS OF PERSISTENT TRAVEL THE APE-MAN WAS REWARDED--
AHEAD, PARTIALLY HIDDEN BY MARSH GRASS, WAS SAM'S ABANDONED BOAT! A COLD CALM ENVELOPED TARZAN -- NOW THE REAL HUNT WOULD BEGIN!


SAM'S TRAIL LED FAR TO THE NORTH, AWAY FROM THE FAMILIAR, STEAMING JUNGLE
TARZAN FOLLOWED PATIENTLY, RESOLUTELY--YET HE NEVER ALLOWED HIMSELF TO GO HUNGRY
BUT ONE DAY HE WAS DISTURBED WHILE FEEDING OFF BARA, THE DEER. SOMEONE OR SOMETHING HIT HIM WITH A RIPE FRUIT!
1.5.88

SNARLING IN ANGER, TARZAN LEAPED TO HIS FEET -- AND THIS TIME A FRUIT SQUASHED IN HIS FACE!
A SHRILL CHATTERING FOLLOWER NOW MAKING THE APE-MAN LAUGH! HE HAD BEEN DUPED BY A MISCHIEVOUS MONKEY!
"COME ON DOWN, MANU, I--" BUT TARZAN SUDDENLY STARED, OPEN-MOUTHED. COCKED JAUNTILY ON MANU'S HEAD WAS SOME KIND OF MILITARY CAP!
4284

'FEAR ME!" SCREECHED MANU. "I AM MIGHTY FIGHTER! I KILL THREE TARMANGANI!"

"VERY WELL, MANU," SAID THE APE-MAN TOLERANTLY. "SHOW ME PROOF OF YOUR DEED!"


THE LITTLE SIMIAN PROUDLY LED TARZAN TO A HIDDEN GLADE, WHERE PART OF HIS BOAST BECAME A GRUESOME REALITY--FOR HERE WERE THE REMAINS OF THREE SOLDIERS!
4-25

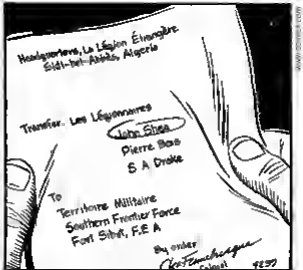
TARZAN INSPECTED THE REMAINS SCAVENGERS HAD LEFT NOTHING BUT CLOTHES AND BONES-- YET THE GARMENTS WERE GONE FROM ONE SKELETON!

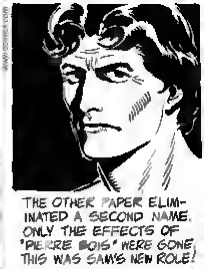
THEN THE APE-MAN UNDERSTOOD! THESE WERE FRENCH UNIFORMS, AND SAM'S SPOOR WAS EVIDENT NEARBY-- HE COULD HAVE KILLED THE MEN--

AND SAM WAS ON THE RUN-- WHAT BETTER DISGUISE THAN THAT OF A MEMBER OF THE FOREIGN LEGION!

FINDING THE BODIES OF THREE FOREIGN LEGION SOLDIERS, TARZAN SUSPECTED THAT SAM WAS TO BLAME -- HAD MURDERED TO GET ONE OF THEIR IDENTIFICATIONS

HE SEARCHED THE UNIFORMS AND PRODUCED SECRET PAPERS, WRAPPED IN OILSKIN. UNROLLING ONE, HE READ :

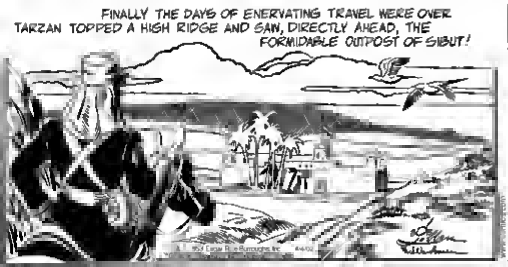




THE OTHER PAPER ELIMINATED A SECOND NAME. ONLY THE EFFECTS OF 'PIERRE BOIS' WERE GONE. THIS WAS SAM'S NEW ROLE!

A HORSE WHINNIED, DISTURBING TARZAN'S THOUGHTS. UNBELIEVABLE, BUT THE SOLDIERS' MOUNTS GRAZED NEARBY! AND THEN, SUDDENLY, HE KNEW WHAT HE MUST DO--
HE DISCARDED HIS BOW AND ARROWS AND CAREFULLY DONNED ONE OF THE UNIFORMS.
TWO COULD PLAY SAM'S GAME OF DISGUISE. AND SO, BACK TO LIFE CAME JOHN SHEA--LEGIONNAIRE!

FULLY EQUIPPED AS "JOHN SHEA", TARZAN MOUNTED ONE OF THE HORSES. "TAKE ME, TOO," SQUEAKED HIS MONKEY FRIEND.
"YOU'D BETTER STAY, MANU," HE LAUGHED. "WHERE I'M GOING, KUDU, THE SUN, WOULD ROAST YOUR HIDE."
THUS THE APE-MAN CONTINUED HIS QUEST, RIDING STEADILY NORTH UNTIL HE REACHED BARREN, DESERT PLAINS--AND FRENCH TERRITORY!
4-28


FINALLY THE DAYS OF ENERVATING TRAVEL WERE OVER. TARZAN TOPPED A HIGH RIDGE AND SAW, DIRECTLY AHEAD, THE FORMIDABLE OUTPOST OF SIBUT!

HE URGED HIS WEARY HORSE TOWARD THE ENTRANCE AS TWO GUARDS CAME OUT TO GREET HIM. NOW, IF HE COULD ONLY BE ACCEPTED AS SHEA!

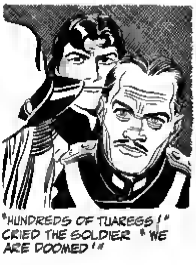
"EVERYTHING SEEMS IN ORDER," MUSED ONE GUARD AS HE EXAMINED JOHN SHEA'S TRANSFER PAPERS. "COME--
TARZAN WAS TAKEN INSIDE TO THE 'CASERNE', OR ENLISTED MENS' QUARTERS, ASSIGNED A COT --
AND TOLD HE NEED NOT REPORT FOR DUTY UNTIL THE MORROW. HE HASTILY SCANNED THE NEIGHBORING FACES. WAS "PIERRE DOIS" HERE?

THE NEXT DAY TARZAN SHARED THE ROUTINE MILITARY LIFE HE HAD EVER OBSERVANT DURING SENTRY DUTY, RIFLE PRACTICE, DRILL --

BUT BY EVENING MEALTIME HE STILL FAILED TO SEE SAM. COULD THIS CRAFTY ENEMY HAVE ELUDED HIM AGAIN ?

DISGUISED AS A LEGIONNAIRE, THE APE-MAN SUBMITTED TO MILITARY LIFE AT FORT SIBUT WHERE HE HOPED TO FIND SAM, POSING AS PIERRE BOIS.
COMMANDA
PUT BY THE SECOND DAY HIS QUARRY STILL EVADED DETECTION. CURIOUS NOW, HE APPROACHED HEADQUARTERS.
TARZAN KNOCKED ANXIOUSLY. PERHAPS HERE HE WOULD GET AN ANSWER. "ENTREZ !" SOUNDED THE GRUFF VOICE OF CAPTAIN MAXIAN.

TARZAN SALUTED, STOOD AT ATTENTION UNTIL RECOGNIZED BY THE CAPTAIN. "WELL, SHEA?"
"EXCUSE ME, MON COMMANDANT, BUT COULD I TROUBLE YOU FOR INFORMATION CONCERNING--!"
BUT SUDDENLY AN ASHEN-FACED SOLDIER BURST THROUGH THE DOOR, SCREAMING. "AUX ARMES, LES ARABES!--ARABS!"
1944



THE MEN RUSHED OUT TO THE COURTYARD WHERE BEDLAM PREVAILED. "TO YOUR POSTS!" YELLED CAPTAIN MAXIAN.
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SOON EVERY EMBRASURE WAS MANNED, BUT A GRIM SIGHT CONFRONTED THE HAPLESS LEGIONNAIRES. THE ARABS HAD COMPLETELY SURROUNDED THE FORT!

TAKING ADVANTAGE OF THE SURPRISE ATTACK, A GROUP RAISED A LADDER TO THE WALLS OF THE FORT!
IN A FEW SECONDS, SINGLE FILE, THEY SWARMED UP THE RUNGS---
AND WITH A HYSTERICAL YELL, THE FIRST FANATIC LEAPED INSIDE THE FORT!
4246

UNFORTUNATELY FOR THE TUAREG, HE CHOSE TARZAN AS A VICTIM-- AND WAS QUICKLY DOWNED!
"THE LADDER!" YELLED THE APE-MAN. OTHERS JOINED HIM, PUSHING, STRAINING--
AND FINALLY THE PIECE TOPPLED OVER, DISPOSING OF THE REMAINING RAIDERS!
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FOILED IN THEIR EFFORT TO ENTER THE FORT THE ARAB SOLDIERS NOW RE-TREATED TO THE HILLS AND MATCHED BULLETS WITH THE SOLDIERS OF FORT SIBUT

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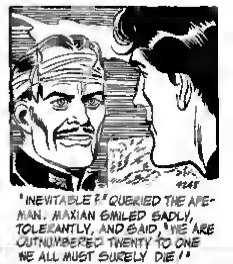
CAPTAIN MAXIAN APPROACHED TARZAN. "QUICK THINKING, SHEA---YOU HAVE AT LEAST DELAYED THE INEVITABLE."



"INEVITABLE?" QUERIED THE APE-MAN. MAXIAN SMILED SADLY, TOLERANTLY, AND SAID, "WE ARE OUTNUMBERED TWENTY TO ONE WE ALL MUST SURELY DIE!"

TARZAN, AS LEGIONNAIRE JOHN SHEA, PROVED AS VALIANT AS ANY WHILE DEFENDING FORT SIBUT AGAINST THE ARAB SOLDIERS!
A RAIDER FELL ALMOST EVERY TIME HIS OR ANOTHER SOLDIER'S RIFLE WAS FIRED.
YET, THE ARABS WERE TOO NUMEROUS. THEY ALSO HAD EXPERT MARKSMEN -- AND, BY MIDDAY, HALF THE FORCES AT SIBUT LAY DEAD OR DYING!

LATER, THE ARAB SOLDIERS TEMPORARILY CEASED FIRE. "AN ATTACK WILL FOLLOW," SAID MAXIAN GRIMLY. "THEY KNOW WE ARE WEAKENED--"
"BUT DO THEY, MON CAPITAINE? TARZAN EXCLAIMED SUDDENLY "WHAT IF WE MAKE THEM THINK WE HAVE UNLIMITED TROOPS?"
"QUICKLY, PROP A DEAD MAN IN EVERY OTHER EMBRASURE!" MAXIAN ASSENTED AND THE SURVIVORS LEAPED TO OBEY AS THEY REALIZED TARZAN'S STRATEGY.
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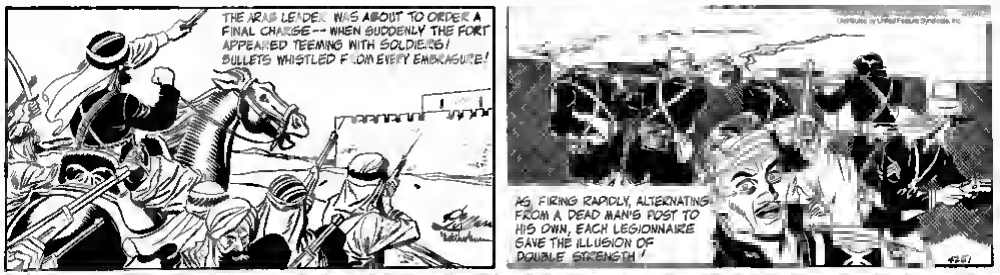
THE ARAB LEADER WAS ABOUT TO ORDER A FINAL CHARGE -- WHEN SUDDENLY THE FORT APPEARED TEEMING WITH SOLDIERS! BULLETS WHISTLED FROM EVERY EMBRASURE!
AS FIRING RAPIDLY, ALTERNATING FROM A DEAD MAN'S POST TO HIS OWN, EACH LEGIONNAIRE GAVE THE ILLUSION OF DOUBLE STRENGTH!
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INSPIRED, THE LEGIONNAIRES
HELD THE CONFUSED ARABS AT BAY UNTIL
DARK, THEN COLLAPSED FROM SHEER
EXHAUSTION

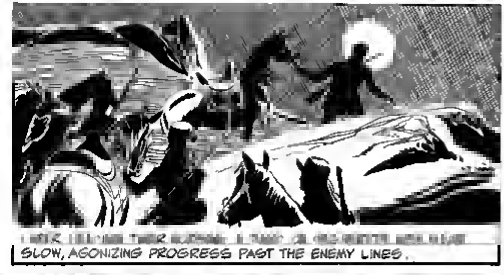
"WE'LL HAVE A RESPITE NOW," PUFFED MAXIAN. "THEY DO NOT FIGHT AT NIGHT."

"BUT WHAT ABOUT MORNING?" SAID TARZAN. "WITH YOUR PERMISSION, SIR, I HAVE ANOTHER PLAN TO OUTWIT THEM."

"I NEED MEN TO SNEAK UP BEHIND THE ARAB CAMP," BEGAN TARZAN "--AND ONE OF THEM MUST BE THE BUGLER."

"WE WILL ATTEMPT A COLOSSAL BLUFF--SUCCESS MEANS VICTORY, LIFE FOR ALL." MAXIAN SHRUGGED "WHY NOT?"

...NOW, LED BY THE REMARKABLE "JOHN SHEA," STALWART VOLUNTEERS CLIMBED SILENTLY OVER THE FORT WALLS AND DROPPED INTO THE DARKNESS.


SLOW, AGONIZING PROGRESS PAST THE ENEMY LINES.

BUT TARZAN SUDDENLY GRIMACED, HALTING HIS FOLLOWERS. AHEAD WAS AN ARAB SENTRY, WHO, UNLESS SILENCED, COULD ROUSE HIS WHOLE WHOLE TROOP!

ACCORDING TO PLAN, TARZAN AND SEVERAL VOLUNTEERS ATTEMPTED TO SNEAK BEHIND THE BANDS LINES, BUT A SENTRY BLOCKED THEIR PATH!
THE APE-MAN HALTED HIS MEN, THEN, WITH KNIFE DRAWN, CRAWLED TOWARD THE ENEMY.
NOW, UNCOILING POWERFUL LEGS, HE LEAPED. THE GUARD TURNED, BUT TERROR FROZE THE SCREAM IN HIS THROAT!
#253

TARZAN STRUCK FURIOUSLY, DETERMINEDLY. AGAIN AND AGAIN HIS KNIFE FOUND ITS MARK.

THEN, BRIEFLY, THE APE-MAN RAISED HIS FACE TO GORO, THE MOON— MUTE TESTIMONY TO HIS VICTORY!

LATER, BEHIND THE HILL, THE HIDDEN DETACHMENT WAITED FOR DAWN. TENSION MOUNTED AS THE FIRST STREAKS OF LIGHT APPEARED IN THE BLUE.
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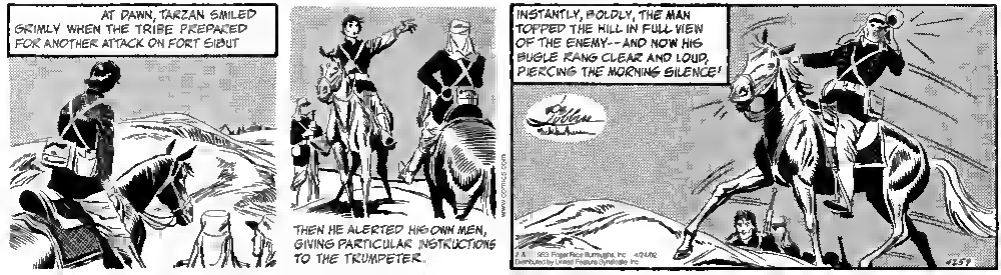
AT DAWN, TARZAN SMILED GRIMLY WHEN THE TRIBE PREPARED FOR ANOTHER ATTACK ON FORT SIBUT
THEN HE ALERTED HIS OWN MEN, GIVING PARTICULAR INSTRUCTIONS TO THE TRUMPETER.
INSTANTLY, BOLDLY, THE MAN TOPPED THE HILL IN FULL VIEW OF THE ENEMY--AND NOW HIS BUGLE RANG CLEAR AND LOUD, PIERCING THE MORNING SILENCE!
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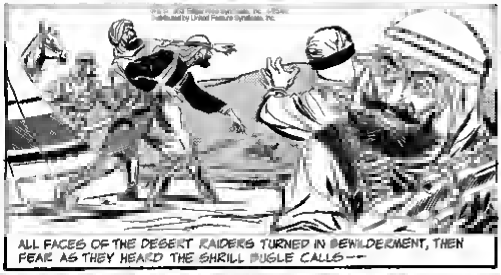
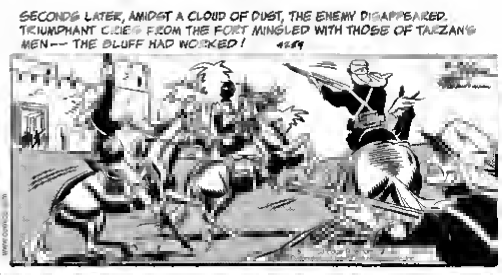
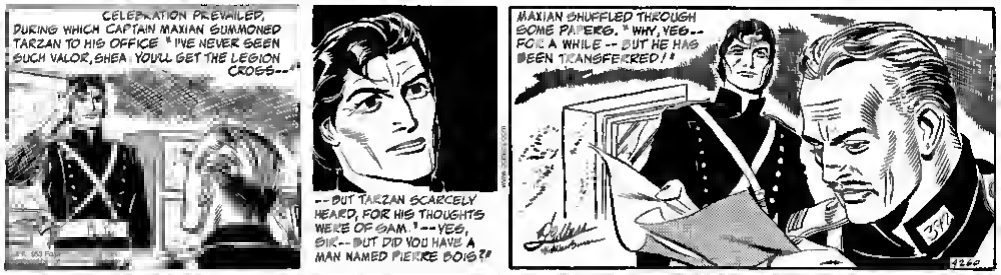
#159


ALL FACES OF THE DESERT RAIDERS TURNED IN BEWILDERMENT, THEN FEAR AS THEY HEARD THE SHRILL BUGLE CALLS--

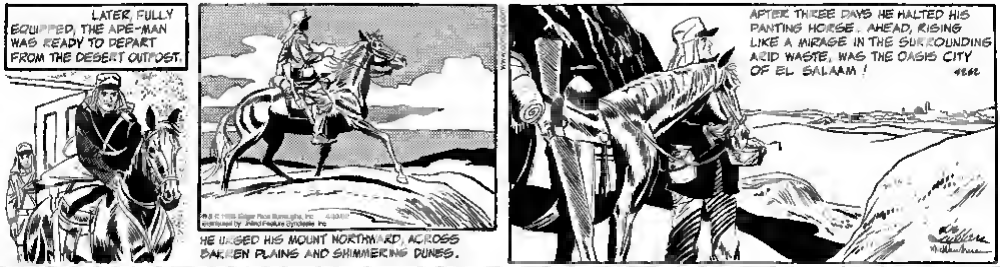
FOR NOW SOME LEGIONNAIRES CHARGED DOWN FROM THE HILLS, YELLING EXULTANTLY-- AS IF IT WERE TREMENDOUS FORTUNE TO FIND A PUNY BAND OF THE ENEMY AT THEIR MERCY!

THE RAIDERS PAUSED MOMENTARILY, THEN RETREATED IN CHAOS--- CERTAIN THAT LEGION REINFORCEMENTS WERE SWEEPING TO ANNIHILATE THEM!


SECONDS LATER, AMIDST A CLOUD OF DUST, THE ENEMY DISAPPEARED. TRIUMPHANT CRIES FROM THE FORT MINGLED WITH THOSE OF TARZAN'S MEN--- THE BLUFF HAD WORKED!


CELEBRATION PREVAILED, DURING WHICH CAPTAIN MAXIAN SUMMONED TARZAN TO HIS OFFICE "I'VE NEVER SEEN SUCH VALOR, SHEA! YOU'LL GET THE LEGION CROSS--"
--BUT TARZAN SCARCELY HEARD, FOR HIS THOUGHTS WERE OF SAM.' --YES, SIR-- BUT DID YOU HAVE A MAN NAMED PIERRE BOIS?"
MAXIAN SHUFFLED THROUGH SOME PAPERS. " WHY, YES-- FOR A WHILE -- BUT HE HAS BEEN TRANSFERRED!!
4260

TARZAN STOOD BEFORE CAPTAIN MAXIAN, STUNNED BY THE NEWS THAT SAM, NOW KNOWN AS PIERRE BOIS, HAD BEEN TRANS-FERRED.
MAXIAN FROWNED "WAIT--YOUR NAME IS ALSO ON THESE ORDERS. TODAYS SKIRMISH FORCED ME TO DELAY THIS INFORMATION--"
"YOU ARE TO PROCEED TO THE CITY HEADQUARTERS AT EL SALAAM--" TARZAN LISTENED INTENTLY--THE CHASE WOULD BE RENEWED!


LATER, FULLY EQUIPPED, THE APE-MAN WAS READY TO DEPART FROM THE DESERT OUTPOST.
HE URGED HIS MOUNT NORTHWARD, ACROSS DARKEN PLAINS AND SHIMMERING DUNES.
AFTER THREE DAYS HE HALTED HIS PANTING HORSE. AHEAD, RISING LIKE A MIRAGE IN THE SURROUNDING ACID WASTE, WAS THE OASIS CITY OF EL SALAAM!

EL SALAAM! TEEMING WILD & MELTING POT OF PEOPLES--YET ALL GAVE WAY RESPECTFULLY TO LEGIONNAIRE "JOHN SHEA"

TARZAN RODE TO LEGION HEADQUARTERS, WHERE HE DISMOUNTED AND LEFT HIS HORSE

A GUARD LED HIM TO THE MAIN BUILDING, HE FOLLOWED ANXIOUSLY, MUSING, "SOON NOW..SOON."

"YOU HAVE TWENTY-FOUR HOURS BEFORE ACTIVE DUTY "SAID A DESK SERGEANT CHECKING "SHEAS" PAPERS "GOOD "REPLIED TARZAN "THEN PERHAPS I CAN FIND A FRIEND, PIERRE BOIS"---"
AN ORDERLY LAUGHED EASILY, MSIEU, PIERRE SPENDS ALL HIS FREE TIME AT THE CRIMSON CAMEL CAFÉ ---"
"NOT THAT I BLAME HIM "ADDED THE MAN DREAMILY "THOSE DANCING GIRLS--BUT ENOUGH! I, GEORGES BLANC WILL TAKE YOU THERE."

GEORGES WAS NOT RELEASED UNTIL DARK, BUT HE KEPT HIS WORD, LEADING TARZAN TO THE CAFÉ.
CRIMSON
CAMEL
"ALLONS!" HE SMILED. "WE WILL DRINK WINE BEFORE YOU BEGIN SEARCH!"
WHILE GEORGES HASTENED AWAY TO ORDER, TARZAN SCANNED THE GRIMY, SMOKE-FILLED ROOM -- BUT SAM WAS NOT AMONG THE CELEBRANTS!

SOON GEORGES RETURNED WITH WINE, BUT TARZAN TACTFULLY DECLINED "THE MORE FOR YOU MY FRIEND -- I THINK I WILL LOOK IN THE OTHER ROOM."

GEORGES SMILED UNDERSTANDINGLY. "OH, THE GIRLS -- IT WAS LONELY AT GISBUT, YES?"
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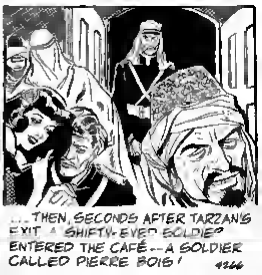

...THEN, SECONDS AFTER TARZAN'S EXIT A SHIFTY-EYED SOLDIER ENTERED THE CAFÉ -- A SOLDIER CALLED PIERRE BOIS!
4246

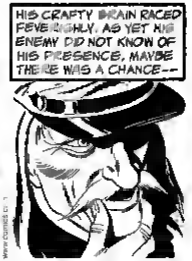
THINKING THAT SAM MIGHT BE WATCHING THE DANCING GIRLS, TARZAN DRIFTED INTO THE ENTERTAINMENT ROOM OF THE CRIMSON CAMEL CAFE.
MEANWHILE, HOWEVER, IT WAS GEORGES WHO DISCOVERED HIS PREY. "PIERRE! I HAVE BEEN LOOKING FOR YOU TO TELL SOME GOOD NEWS!"

"WELL?" SAID SAM CURTLY. "DON'T BE SO GRIM," LAUGHED GEORGES. "A GOOD FRIEND IS HERE TO SEE YOU -- JOHN SHEA!"

SAM RECOILED, SHOCK AND HORROR DISTORTING HIS FEATURES. IMPOSSIBLE! HE'S D---"

THEN, RECOVERING, SAM SPOKE IN A SURPPY VOICE. "SHOW ME, BUT WITH AH-- DISCRETION. I WISH TO SURPRISE JOHN!"

"THERE!" WHISPERED GEORGES. A PARALYZING FEAR ENVELOPED SAM AS HIS SUSPICIONS WERE CONFIRMED. JOHN SHEA WAS THE MAN HE HAD TRAVELED HUNDREDS OF MILES TO AVOID--TARZAN OF THE APES!


HIS CRAFTY BRAIN RACED FEVERISHLY. AS YET HIS ENEMY DID NOT KNOW OF HIS PRESENCE, MAYBE THERE WAS A CHANCE--

AND, STRANGELY, FATE WAS TO GIVE SAM ANOTHER CHANCE--THE RESULT OF A FORTHCOMING SCENE INVOLVING A PRETTY DANCING GIRL...

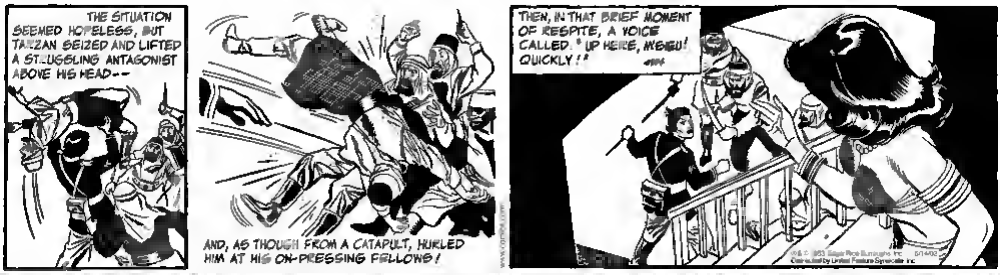
A SWARTHY PATRON, ENAMORED BY THE PERFORMANCE OF ONE OF THE DANCERS, SUDDENLY ENCIRCLED A GREASY ARM ABOUT HER WAIST.
BUT IT WAS HIS MISFORTUNE TO BE SEATED NEAR TARZAN, WHO QUICKLY SPRANG TO THE GIRL'S DEFENSE.
STEEL FINGERS CIRCLED THE FELLOW'S NECK. "RELEASE HER!" SNARLED THE APE-MAN.

FOILED BY TARZAN, HUMILIATED, THE "LOTHARIO" SLUNK OUT OF THE ROOM.
ABRUPTLY HE WAS INTERCEPTED BY A HOPEFUL SAM, WHO HAD WITNESSED THE ENTIRE EVENT.
"I HAVE A PROPOSITION FOR YOU, MY FRIEND," SAID SAM SOOTHINGLY. "TAKE THIS BAG OF GOLD COINS -- ANOTHER AWAITS WHEN YOU BRING PROOF OF THAT LEGIONNAIRE'S DEATH!"
Lyon
Dirkhauser

THE NATIVE SMILED, CONSUMED BY THOUGHTS OF GREED AND REVENGE. "CONSIDER THE JOB DONE, MASTER!"
MEANWHILE, THE DANCER HE HAD BEFRIENDED WHISPERED TO TARZAN. "BEWARE, M'SIEU--YOU ARE IN DANGER!"
TARZAN WHIRLED TO SEE A THREATENING MOB CLOSING IN ON HIM--AND FRAMED IN THE ARCHWAY, WAS THE MOCKING FACE OF HIS ENEMY, SAM!

BECAUSE OF SAM'S STRATEGY, A HORDE OF NATIVES RIOTED IN THE CRIMSON CAMEL CAFÉ, SINGLING OUT THE APE-MAN FOR THEIR ATTACK!

WITH TREMENDOUS BLOWS TARZAN FELLED THE FIRST FEW TO COME WITHIN REACH--YET SURVIVAL SEEMED IMPOSSIBLE AGAINST SUCH ODDS
#378


THE SITUATION SEEMED HOPELESS, BUT TARZAN SEIZED AND LIFTED A STRUGGLING ANTAGONIST ABOVE HIS HEAD--
AND, AS THOUGH FROM A CATAPULT, HURLED HIM AT HIS ONRUSHING FELLOWS!
THEN, IN THAT BRIEF MOMENT OF RESPITE, A VOICE CALLED "UP HERE, MUGIRU! QUICKLY!"
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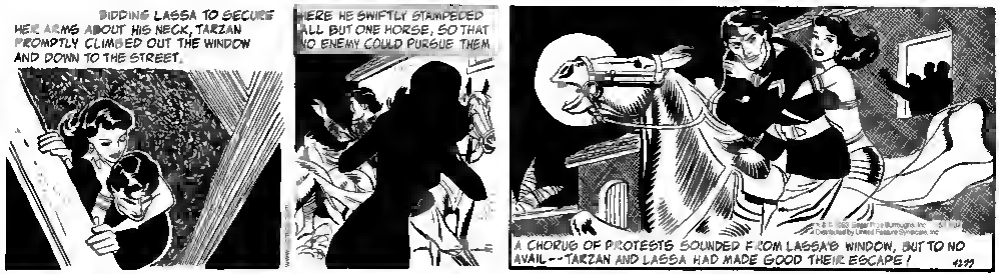
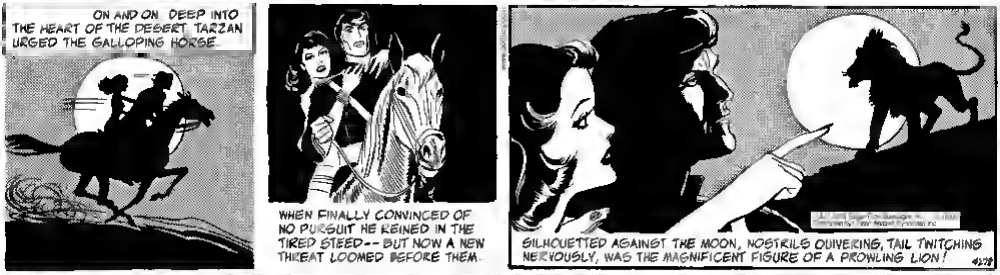
OPTIMISM SPARKED TARZAN AG, HEEDING THE DANCER'S CALL, HE RACED TO THE TOP OF THE STAIRS.
NOW HE TURNED, KICKING VICIOUSLY AGAINST THE NEAREST PURSUER'S CHEST...
ABRUPTLY LIKE TENPINS THE MOB TUMBLED CURSING AND SCREAMING TO THE LANDING BELOW!

NOW, AFTER BEING LED TO THE GIRL'S QUARTERS, THE APE-MAN BOLTED THE DOOR.
HE SMILED AT HIS BENEFACTRESS. "THANK YOU--" "LASSA," SHE REPLIED. "BUT THEY WILL SOON BREAK THE DOOR. WE ARE LOST!"
"NOT NECESSARILY," MUSED TARZAN. "THERE ARE TETHERED HORSES IN THE STREET BELOW--COME QUICKLY, WHILE THERE IS STILL TIME!"


BIDDING LASSA TO SECURE HER ARMS ABOUT HIS NECK, TARZAN PROMPTLY CLIMBED OUT THE WINDOW AND DOWN TO THE STREET.
HERE HE SWIFTLY STAMPEDED ALL BUT ONE HORSE, SO THAT NO ENEMY COULD PURSUE THEM.
A CHORUS OF PROTESTS SOUNDED FROM LASSA'S WINDOW, BUT TO NO AVAIL--TARZAN AND LASSA HAD MADE GOOD THEIR ESCAPE!
4-29


ON AND ON DEEP INTO THE HEART OF THE DESERT TARZAN URGED THE GALLOPING HORSE
WHEN FINALLY CONVINCED OF NO PURSUIT HE REINED IN THE TIRED STEED-- BUT NOW A NEW THREAT LOOMED BEFORE THEM.
SILHOUETTED AGAINST THE MOON, NOSTRILS QUIVERING, TAIL TWITCHING NERVOUSLY, WAS THE MAGNIFICENT FIGURE OF A PROWLING LION!

TARZAN AND LASSA ESCAPED FROM AN ANGRY MOB AT EL SALAAM, BUT THERE WAS NO RESPITE FROM DANGER.--

"EL ADREA!" GASPED THE GIRL. "THE BLACK LORD OF THE DESERT--"

AND NOW, THE HORSE SCENTED THIS TERRIBLE, NEW ENEMY. HE REARED UP NEIGHING, SNORTING--SO SUDDENLY THAT HIS RIDERS SPRAWLED TO THE GROUND!

UNDAUNTED DETERMINED TARZAN DREW HIS KNIFE AND SNARLED HIS OWN CHALLENGE TO THE BLACK MANED CARNIVORE

THEN, FURIOUS AT THIS MAN-THING'S AUDACITY, TAIL EXTENDED AND QUIVERING, NUMA SPRANG!

NUMA STRUCK CONFIDENTLY, ACCURATELY, YET THERE WAS NO FEEL OF MAN-FLESH UNDER HIS SLASHING CLAWS.
NOW TARZAN SOUGHT HIS VANTAGE POINT. QUICKLY, HE LEAPED TO THE LION'S SINEWY BACK.
REPEATEDLY, HIS BLADE PIERCED THAT MASSIVE, HEAVING CHEST -- AND SOON EL ADREA, LORD OF THE BARRENS BEGAN TO SUCCUMB!
Lidbury
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HIS SAVAGE HEART POUNDING IN TRIUMPH, TARZAN STOOD BEFORE THE CARCASS AND BELLOWED OUT THE CHALLENGE OF HIS KIND - VICTORY FOR A BULL APE

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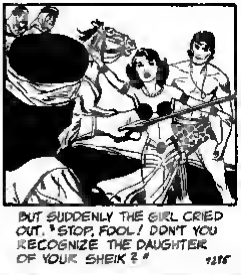
THE HIDEOUS SCREAM REBOUNDED ACROSS THE BARREN SANDS. ALL CREATURES OF THE DESERT SHUDDERED--THINKING A NEW MONSTER HAD INVADED THEIR DOMAIN....

LASSA SHIVERED "WHAT AN UNBELIEVABLE PERSON, TO KILL EL ADREA, AND THAT CRY." TARZAN SMILED REASSURINGLY, "I'M SORRY TO HAVE FRIGHTENED YOU---"
"NOW YOU MUST SLEEP UNTIL MORNING, IT'S BEEN A LONG ORDEAL." THE GIRL SLOWLY RELAXED AND OBEYED
BUT TARZAN WAS FAR FROM OPTIMISTIC, FOR THEY WERE COMPLETELY EXPOSED TO THE DESERT, WITH NO MOUNTS AND NO SUPPLIES. .

AT DAWN, LASSA AWOKE IN GOOD SPIRITS. "LET'S GO, M'SIEU. I KNOW OF AN OASIS NOT TOO FAR DISTANT---!"
"WHO CARES THAT WE ARE ALONE? WITH YOUR STRENGTH, SURVIVAL WILL BE EASY!"
BUT THEY WERE NOT ALONE-- CRUEL, BALEFUL EYES WATCHED THEIR EVERY MOVE, EYES THAT THIRSTED FOR ALIEN BLOOD!"

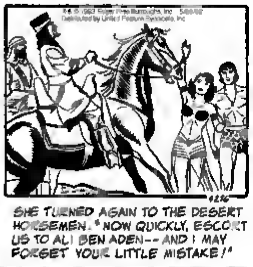
ON THE MORNING AFTER THEIR FLIGHT INTO THE DESERT, TARZAN AND LASSA WERE DISMAYED TO SEE A BAND OF MARAUDERS CHARGING TOWARD THEM.

THE NEAREST HORSEMAN LEAPED FROM HIS HORSE, BRANDISHING AN UGLY SWORD--


BUT SUDDENLY THE GIRL CRIED OUT, "STOP, FOOL! DON'T YOU RECOGNIZE THE DAUGHTER OF YOUR SHEIK?"

TO THE APE-MAN'S AMAZEMENT ALL THE RAIDERS ACKNOWLEDGED LASSA, BOWING TO THE GROUND IN REVERENCE.

THE GIRL SMILED. "IT'S TRUE, MISIEU. THESE ARE MY PEOPLE; MY FATHER IS A NOMAD CHIEFTAIN."

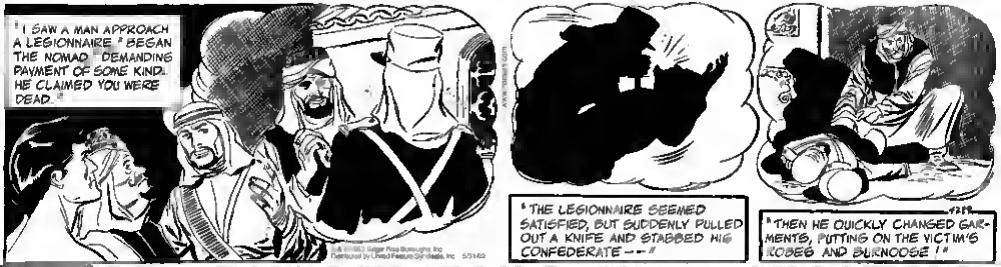

SHE TURNED AGAIN TO THE DESERT HORSEMEN. "NOW QUICKLY, ESCORT US TO ALI BEN ADEN -- AND I MAY FORGET YOUR LITTLE MISTAKE!"

THE NOMADS LED TARZAN AND LASSA TO A COLORFUL GROUP OF TENTS, THEIR TEMPORARY 'VILLAGE,' AND RODE DIRECTLY TO THE SHEIK

ALI GREETED HIS DAUGHTER WITH UNCHECKED EMOTION, SOBBING FREELY AS SHE RELATED HER EXPERIENCES.

FINALLY, HE TURNED GRATEFUL EYES TOWARD TARZAN. "I OWE HER SAFETY TO YOU. ANY FAVOR IS YOURS FOR THE ASKING."

DURING THE COURSE OF CONVERSATION A YOUNG NOMAD CAME FORWARD. "PARDON, BUT I, TOO, WAS AT THE CAFÉ LAST NIGHT. I THOUGHT --"
"OF COURSE," URGED TARZAN. THE FELLOW SPOKE HESITANTLY, "I DID NOT PARTICIPATE IN THE PLOT AGAINST YOUR LIFE --"
"BUT WHEN THE FIGHTING HAD CEASED I ACCIDENTALLY WITNESSED A STRANGE SCENE ..."


"I SAW A MAN APPROACH A LEGIONNAIRE." BEGAN THE NOMAD. "DEMANDING PAYMENT OF SOME KIND. HE CLAIMED YOU WERE DEAD."
"THE LEGIONNAIRE SEEMED SATISFIED, BUT SUDDENLY PULLED OUT A KNIFE AND STABBED HIS CONFEDERATE---"
"THEN HE QUICKLY CHANGED GARMENTS, PUTTING ON THE VICTIM'S ROBES AND BURNOOSE!"

"THEN," CONCLUDED THE NOMAD, UNAWARE HE WAS RELATING THE ACTIONS OF THE MURDEROUS SAM, "I TRAILED THE MAN .. HE STOLE A CAMEL AND RODE SOUTH FROM THE CITY."
TARZAN MUSED OVER THE STORY, THEN SPOKE. "SHEIK.. I HAVE A FAVOR TO ASK—"
"I WANT TO BE COMPLETELY OUTFITTED FOR DESERT TRAVEL; CLOTHES, WEAPONS, SUPPLIES—AND ONE OF YOUR FLEETEST CAMELS!"

LEARNING THAT SAM HAD FLED INTO THE DESERT, TARZAN PLANNED PURSUIT, REQUESTING EQUIPMENT FROM LASSAS FATHER.
"THAT IS THE LEAST I CAN DO," REPLIED ALI BEN-ADEN AS HE GAVE BRIEF INSTRUCTIONS TO AN AIDE...
THEN LED THE APE-MAN TO A GROUP OF CAMELS. "THERE IS MY FASTEST MOUNT, A 'MEHARI'. RIDE HIM, AND YOU WILL OVERTAKE YOUR ENEMY!"
4/21
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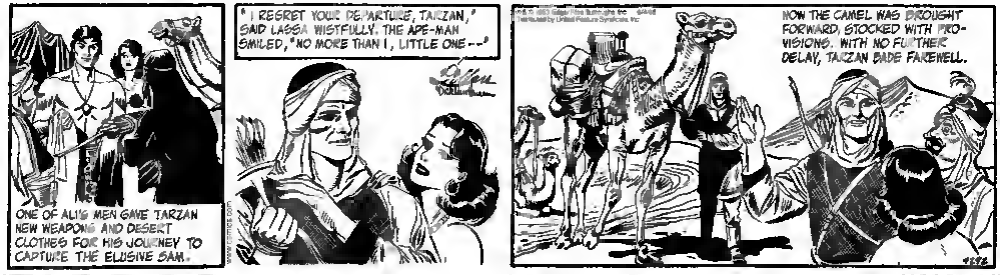
ONE OF ALI'S MEN GAVE TARZAN NEW WEAPONS AND DESERT CLOTHES FOR HIS JOURNEY TO CAPTURE THE ELUSIVE SAM.
"I REGRET YOUR DEPARTURE, TARZAN," SAID LASSA WISTFULLY. THE APE-MAN SMILED, "NO MORE THAN I, LITTLE ONE--"
NOW THE CAMEL WAS BROUGHT FORWARD, STOCKED WITH PROVISIONS. WITH NO FURTHER DELAY, TARZAN BADE FAREWELL.

FINALLY, TARZAN RODE OUT INTO THE DESERT. A DETACHMENT OF NOMADS WATCHED FROM THE EDGE OF THE 'DOUAR,' WAVING AS HE VANISHED FROM SIGHT.
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...FOR DAYS, SEARCHING MILE AFTER MILE, THE APE-MAN URGED HIS MOUNT IN THE DIRECTION THAT SAM HAD FLED.

THEN, ONE MORNING A SMILE TWISTED HIS PARCHED, WIND-CRACKED LIPS. AHEAD WAS A TINY GROUP OF PALMS--OASIS!

WHEN HE REACHED THE OASIS, TARZAN LEAPED OFF THE CAMEL'S BACK, THIRSTING FOR THE BUBBLY SPRING WATER
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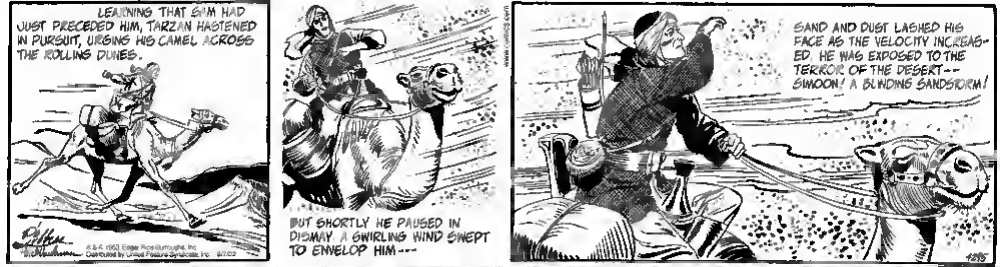
Tarzan Characters Inc.

HE DRANK, SPLASHED, BATHED IN ABANDON, BUT SUDDENLY HALTED AT SIGHT OF A HUMAN FOOTPRINT!

ALERT, SUSPICIOUS, TARZAN INVESTIGATED. SOON HIS QUIVERING NOSTRILS SCENTED SAM -- AND THE SPOOR WAS BUT AN HOUR OLD!
4254


LEARNING THAT GIM HAD JUST PRECEDED HIM, TARZAN HASTENED IN PURSUIT, URGING HIS CAMEL ACROSS THE ROLLING DUNES.
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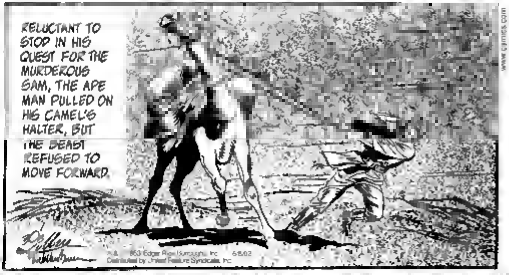
BUT SHORTLY HE PAUSED IN DISMAY A SWIRLING WIND SWEPT TO ENVELOP HIM---
SAND AND DUST LASHED HIS FACE AS THE VELOCITY INCREASED. HE WAS EXPOSED TO THE TERROR OF THE DESERT--- SIMOON! A BLINDING SANDSTORM!


RELUCTANT TO STOP IN HIS QUEST FOR THE MURDEROUS SAM, THE APE MAN PULLED ON HIS CAMEL'S HALTER, BUT THE BEAST REFUSED TO MOVE FORWARD.
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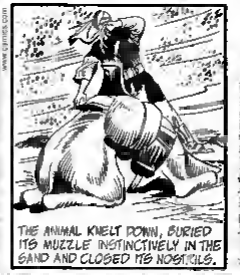
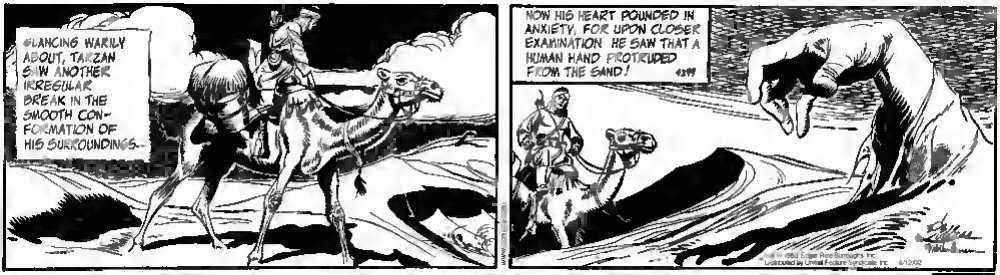

THE ANIMAL KNELT DOWN, BURIED ITS MUZZLE INSTINCTIVELY IN THE SAND AND CLOSED ITS NOSTRILS.

THE STORM'S FURY INCREASED. TARZAN CROUCHED BESIDE THE CAMEL COUGHING, CHOKING. IF IT DID NOT STOP SOON, HE WOULD SURELY SUFFOCATE!

HELPLESS BEFORE THE FURY OF A SIMOON IN HIS LONELY SEARCH FOR THE UNSCRUPULOUS SAM, TARZAN CROUCHED FOR SHELTER BESIDE HIS CAMEL.
THE WIND SCREAMED FOR HOURS. GRITS OF SAND POUNDED AGAINST HIS BODY AND FACE.
THEN, QUITE SUDDENLY, THE SWIRLING PARTICLES SETTLED, THE STORM SUBSIDED AS QUICKLY AS IT HAD COME...

TARZAN CONTINUED HIS QUEST AND SOON BEHELD A STRANGE SIGHT A DEAD CAMEL LAY BEFORE HIM--VICTIM OF THE STORM!
THE APE-MAN GAZED AT THE BEAST WITH CONCERN, NOW REALIZING THERE WAS BUT ONE EXPLANATION.
THIS MUST HAVE BEEN SAHIB MOUNT. WAS HE ALSO DEAD, OR DID HE LURK BEHIND A SAND DUNE-- WAITING?


GLANCING WARILY ABOUT, TARZAN SAW ANOTHER IRREGULAR BREAK IN THE SMOOTH CONFORMATION OF HIS SURROUNDINGS.
NOW HIS HEART POUNDED IN ANXIETY, FOR UPON CLOSER EXAMINATION HE SAW THAT A HUMAN HAND PROTRUDED FROM THE SAND!
4299
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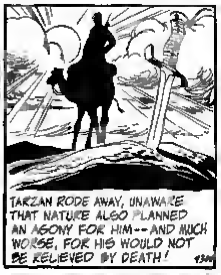
TARZAN UNEARTHED THE BODY, CONFIRMING HIS SUSPICIONS--
FOR HERE LAY HIS ENEMY, SAM, STARING THROUGH GLAZED, LIFELESS EYES.

SAM--WILY, CUNNING IN HIS FIGHT AGAINST MAN, BUT PATHETICALLY INEPT AGAINST THE WRATH OF NATURE...


TARZAN RODE AWAY, UNAWARE THAT NATURE ALSO PLANNED AN AGONY FOR HIM--AND MUCH WORSE, FOR HIS WOULD NOT BE RELIEVED BY DEATH!

TARZAN'S PRELUDE TO SLEEP WAS LEISURE PLANNING FOR HIS JOURNEY HOME.
BUT IN THE MORNING THESE PLANS WERE SHATTERED. HE STARED IN DISMAY, UNBELIEVINGLY---
NOW HIS OWN CAMEL WAS DEAD PROBABLY FROM FEEDING ON A POISONOUS SHRUB. HE WAS ALONE ON FOOT IN THE HEART OF THE DESERT!
Burne Hogarth
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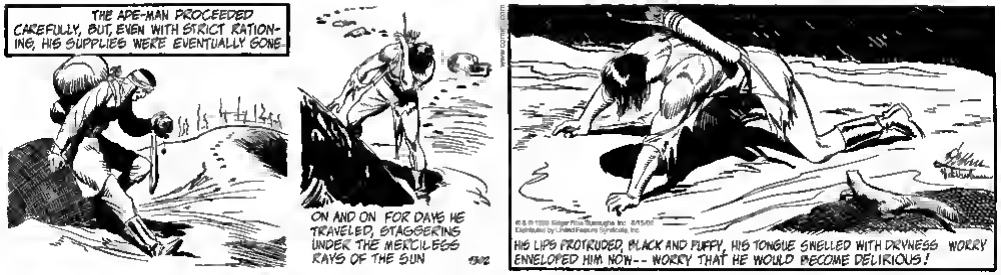
THE APE-MAN PROCEEDED CAREFULLY, BUT, EVEN WITH STRICT RATIONING, HIS SUPPLIES WERE EVENTUALLY GONE
ON AND ON FOR DAYS HE TRAVELED, STAGGERING UNDER THE MERCILESS RAYS OF THE SUN
HIS LIPS PROTRUDED, BLACK AND FUFFY, HIS TONGUE SWELLED WITH DRYNESS WORRY ENVELOPED HIM NOW-- WORRY THAT HE WOULD BECOME DELIRIOUS!

AFTER FINDING THE BODY OF HIS ENEMY, SAM, AND GOING DAYS WITHOUT FOOD OR WATER, THE APE-MAN STUMBLED TO THE DESERT SANDS IN NEAR COLLAPSE.
A THROBBING HEADACHE TORTURED HIS SENSES -- AND NOW, THE DELIRIUM HE HAD FEARED CAME UPON HIM.
FIRST, HIS EQUILIBRIUM WAS LOST. THE SURROUNDING TERRITORY BEGAN TO REVOLVE -- A WORLD OF FANTASY, SPINNING FASTER AND FASTER!

TARZAN GRIMACED, CLOSING HIS EYES, TRYING TO SHUT OUT THE WHIRLING DESERT.
HA HA HA HA HA HA HO HO HO HO
THEN, SUDDENLY, A SOUND STILLED THE APE-MAN'S VERTIGO--THE SOUND OF RAUCOUS, HUMAN LAUGHTER!
HIS SWOLLEN MOUTH DROPPED OPEN IN ASTONISHMENT--SAM, VIRILE AND VINDICTIVE, STRODE TOWARD HIM WITH A COCKED RIFLE!
O!
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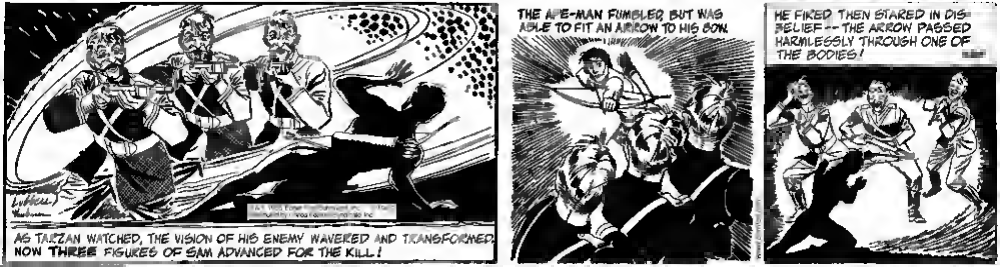
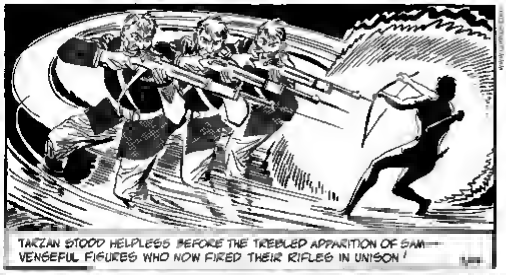
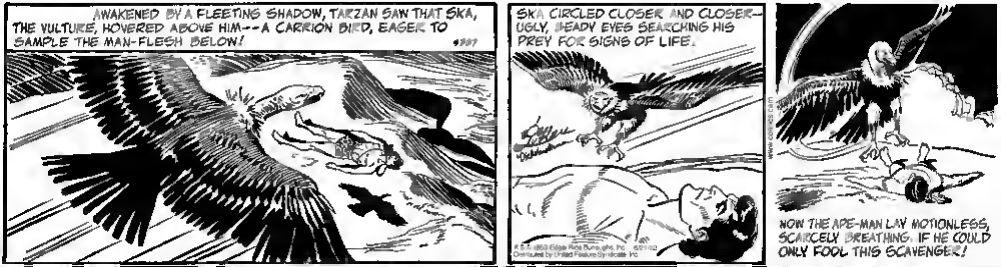

AS TARZAN WATCHED, THE VISION OF HIS ENEMY WAVERED AND TRANSFORMED NOW THREE FIGURES OF SAM ADVANCED FOR THE KILL!
THE APE-MAN FUMBLED, BUT WAS ABLE TO FIT AN ARROW TO HIS BOW.
HE FIRED THEN STARED IN DISBELIEF -- THE ARROW PASSED HARMLESSLY THROUGH ONE OF THE BODIES!


TARZAN STOOD HELPLESS BEFORE THE TREBLED APPARITION OF SAM-VENGEFUL FIGURES WHO NOW FIRED THEIR RIFLES IN UNISON!

THERE WAS AN EAR-SPLITTING NOISE AND THE HALLUCINATION VANISHED. BLACKNESS ENVELOPED THE APE-MAN--A NEW STAGE IN HIS CRISIS.

...FINALLY, AFTER MANY HOURS, HE OPENED ONE TORTURED EYELID. HIS MIND WAS STRANGELY ALERT NOW--AND CURIOUS; FOR THE SHADOW OF A LIVING CREATURE HAD TEMPORARILY BLOTTED OUT THE SUN!


AWAKENED BY A FLEETING SHADOW, TARZAN SAW THAT SKA, THE VULTURE, HOVERED ABOVE HIM--A CARRION BIRD, EAGER TO SAMPLE THE MAN-FLESH BELOW!
SKA CIRCLED CLOSER AND CLOSER--UGLY, HEADY EYES SEARCHING HIS PREY FOR SIGNS OF LIFE.
NOW THE APE-MAN LAY MOTIONLESS, SCARCELY BREATHING. IF HE COULD ONLY FOOL THIS SCAVENGER!

CONVINCED THAT HIS PREY WAS DEAD, SKA, THE VULTURE, DRIFTED DOWN FOR A LANDING--

WHEN SUDDENLY, IN A FINAL HERCULEAN EFFORT, TARZAN SPRANG UP, GRABBING A SCRAWNY LEG! HERE WAS NOURISHMENT-- A CHANCE FOR LIFE!
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4308

STARVATION STALKED THE APE-MAN, YET BY MUSTERING THE LAST OF HIS FADING STRENGTH HE CAPTURED A VULTURE.
THE SCAVENGER'S STRINGY FLESH PROVED SWEETER THAN ANY DEER'S... AND NOW TARZAN REGAINED SOME OF HIS STRENGTH.
LATER NEW LIFE FLOWED INTO HIS BODY. HE CONTINUED HIS JOURNEY, AND SOON THE DESERT WASTE TURNED TO FRINGES OF LUSH, GREEN JUNGLE!
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SOON TARZAN REACHED THE COOL, VERDANT JUNGLE SMALL CREATURES SCOLDED AND CHATTERED AS HE SPLASHED IN A SPRING-FED STREAM.
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NOW HE APPROACHED A QUIET POOL, AIMED CAREFULLY WITH HIS BOW--

AND PROUDLY PRESENTED PISAH, THE FISH! THUS FATE DECREED A RECESS FOR THE APE-MAN, BUT ONLY TO PREPARE HIM FOR THE FANTASTIC FUTURE!
4-18

THE APE-MAN WANDERED THROUGH THE FOREST, AIMLESS AND CAREFREE, BUT ONE DAY A GRIM SIGHT ENDED HIS IDYLLIC INTERLUDE.
A GREAT MANGANI LAY ON THE GROUND, GROTESQUELY CRUMPLED IN DEATH.
TARZAN FOUND NO MARKS OF VIOLENCE, YET THERE WAS ONE DISTURBING CLUE -- A YELLOW FOAM FLECKED THE BEAST'S LIPS.
4/11

WHILE INSPECTING THE CARCASS OF A DEAD APE TARZAN SUDDENLY HEARD A RUSTLING IN THE BRUSH.
THERE WAS A LOW, GUTTURAL GROWL, AND NOW THE BEAST'S MATE CHARGED FORWARD!
THE APE-MAN TURNED IN DISMAY, THE BRUTE WAS CRAZED WITH ANGER, AND APPARENTLY BLAMED HIM FOR THE OTHER'S DEATH!
4/3/2
www.comicstrip.com

TARZAN GRABBED A HAIRY ARM AND PIVOTED, INTENDING TO HURL THE MAN-GANI OVER HIS SHOULDER --
BUT SUDDENLY THE APE GROANED AND COLLAPSED, FALLING TO THE EARTH!
HE, TOO, WAS DEAD -- AND, STRANGELY, THE GAME YELLOW FROTH FLECKED HIS LIPS!

NOW, AS TARZAN EXAMINED THE SECOND APE, A WHOLE TRIBE OF SIMIAN BRUTES DROPPED FROM THE TREES AND SURROUNDED HIM.

EXPLANATIONS WERE IMPOSSIBLE SO HE WAITED ALERT AND POISED FOR A CHALLENGER.

SLOWLY THE KING LUMBERED FORWARD NO AILING BEAST HERE, BUT A POWERFUL BULL, EAGER TO AVENGE HIS FELLOWS!
JOE KUBERT

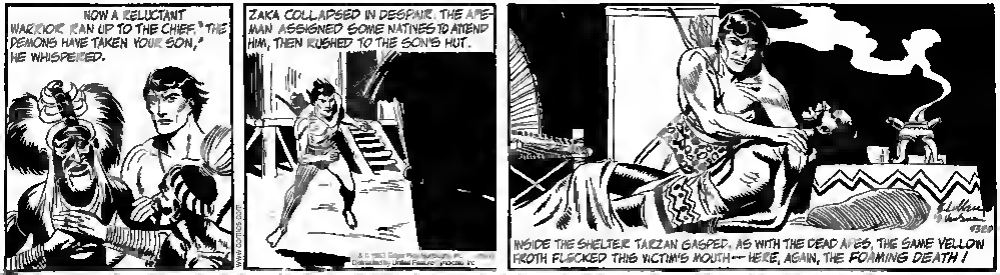
BELIEVING THAT TARZAN CAUSED THE DEATH OF TWO APES, A TRIBE SURROUNDED HIM, WATCHING, AS THE KING SOUGHT VENGEANCE IN COMBAT.
Hal Foster
R.E.B. '53 Edgar Rice Burroughs, Inc.
Distributed by United Feature Syndicate, Inc. '52
BUT NOW THE APE-MAN RECOGNIZED HIS ADVERSARY. "BULAT!" HE CALLED. "DON'T YOU RECOGNIZE YOUR FRIEND?"
THE BULL LUNGED FORWARD BELLIGERENTLY. "NO TARMANGANI IS BULAT'S FRIEND," HE SNARLED. "BULAT KILL TARMANGANI!"
485

GROWLING, SNAPPING, THE TWO COMBATANTS CLASHED. THE APE-MAN STRAINED, FORCING AWAY THE SHAGGY ARMS THAT SOUGHT HIS THROAT!
ABRUPTLY, HE JERKED HIS HANDS FREE AND SMASHED A FIST AGAINST BULAT'S JAW!
THE APE STAGGERED BACK AND COLLAPSED. THEN, STRANGELY, HIS SLUGGISH MEMORY WAS REVIVED. "TARZAN," HE MOANED THROUGH BLEEDING LIPS. "ONLY YOU COULD DEFEAT BULAT!"

AFTER DEFEATING BULAT, THE APE-MAN CALLED THE REST OF THE TRIBE. "TARZAN NEVER HARMED YOUR BROTHERS--HE IS FRIEND OF THE WANGANI."
"WE BELIEVE," BULAT GROWLED FINALLY. HIS BROW FURROWED. "GOMANGANI HAVE A LAIR NEARBY---"
GOMANGANI! NOW THERE WAS A FORBIDDING CAST TO THE MYSTERY. "I WILL QUESTION THEM," ANSWERED TARZAN GRIMLY.

TARZAN TRAVELED TO THE NATIVE VILLAGE A SMALL COMMUNITY NESTLED ON THE LOWER SLOPE OF A MOUNTAIN.
HE APPROACHED THE COMPOUND CAUTIOUSLY. STRANGE, FOR IN MIDDAY THE PLACE SEEMED DESERTED.
YET NOW A DETACHMENT OF TREMBLING WARRIORS ADVANCED TOWARD HIM--BUT THEIR TERROR WAS CAUSED BY SOMETHING MORE THREATENING THAN THE APE-MAN'S PRESENCE!

AFTER ANNOUNCING HIS BUSINESS TARZAN WAS LED AT ONCE TO THE ROYAL HUT.
PRESENTLY CHIEF ZAKA APPEARED, A SORROWFUL, TROUBLED MAN... RECOGNITION LIGHTED HIS EYES --
"I KNOW OF YOU, TARZAN, BUT YOU MUST LEAVE THIS VILLAGE OF THE DOOMED-- OR YOU, TOO, MAY BE STRUCK BY THE FOAMING DEATH!"
4-14


NOW A RELUCTANT WARRIOR RAN UP TO THE CHIEF. "THE DEMONS HAVE TAKEN YOUR SON," HE WHISPERED.
ZAKA COLLAPSED IN DESPAIR. THE APE-MAN ASSIGNED SOME NATIVES TO ATTEND HIM, THEN RUSHED TO THE SON'S HUT.
INSIDE THE SHELTER TARZAN GASPED, AS WITH THE DEAD APES, THE SAME YELLOW FROTH FLECKED THE VICTIM'S MOUTH--- HERE, AGAIN, THE FOAMING DEATH!

TARZAN TRACED THE MALADY OF THE "FOAMING DEATH" TO A NATIVE VILLAGE. NOW, AS HE INSPECTED THE LATEST VICTIM, A SHADOW LOOMED BEHIND HIM.
"YES, TARZAN, A HORRIBLE END," SAID A BEGUILING VOICE. "BUT SUCH IS THE WRATH OF OUR MOUNTAIN GOD, OVAR--"
"I, WEZIL, HAVE WARNED MY PEOPLE, YET--" THE APE-MAN GRIMACED. HERE WAS THE WITCH DOCTOR, A MAN OF EVIL AND CUNNING -- HERE WAS AN ENEMY!
#321

"WHAT ADVANTAGE TO YOU, WEZIL, IS THE MOUNTAIN SPIRIT'S WISH THAT YOUR PEOPLE MOVE AWAY?" CHALLENGED TARZAN
THE WITCH DOCTOR DREW A KNIFE, SCREECHING, "DIE JACKAL -- NO ONE QUESTIONS OVAR'S REPRESENTATIVE!"
BUT NOW STEEL-THEWED FINGERS SQUEEZED AGAINST WEZIL'S THROAT. "WAIT!" HE SPUTTERED--
"TONIGHT YOU CAN HEAR THE MESSAGE OF OVAR YOURSELF!"

REGAINING HIS COMPOSURE, WEZIL FACED SOME NATIVES OUTSIDE THE HUT. "I GO TO COMMUNE WITH OVAR," HE MUTTERED. "HE WILL SPEAK AGAIN TONIGHT."
THEN, CASTING A CONTEMPTUOUS EYE AT THE APE-MAN, THE WITCH DOCTOR SLINK AWAY TOWARD THE MOUNTAIN.
LATER AT DARK, TARZAN ANXIOUSLY FOLLOWED AS THE NATIVES FILED UP A WINDING TRAIL TO THE HOME OF THEIR GOD, OVAR

HALFWAY UP THE VEKDANT SLOPE THE MOUNTAIN WORSHIPPERS ENTERED A WEIRD YAWNING CAVE THE TEMPLE OF OVAR

HOW THE REVERENT NATIVES TOOK THEIR PLACES IN A MUSTY, ROCK WALLED

WHEN ALL WAS STILL, THE WITCH DOCTOR CHANTED, "YOUR SUBJECTS ARE HERE, OMAR GNE THEM YOUR WORDS OF WISDOM!"
GLANCING SPITEFULLY AT TARZAN, HE HELD FORTH AN EARTHEN JUG, ORDERING THE NATIVES TO DRINK.
www.comics.com
NOW HE THREW SOME POWDER INTO THE FIRE. THE FLAMES LEAPED UP, ILLUMINATING FEARFUL FACES. THUS THE IMPRESSIVE CEREMONY BEGAN!

TENSE AND DRAMATIC BEFORE HIS AUDIENCE, WEZIL UTTERED A WILD PLEA - "SPEAK, OVAR! WE AWAIT YOU!"
1326

THEN, BRIEFLY, HE TURNED TOWARD AN OPENING IN THE ROCK WALL BEHIND HIM--

SUDDENLY THE VERY ROOM TREMBLED, A MYSTERIOUS, BOOMING VOICE REVERBERATED THROUGH THE CAVE. "LEAVE THIS COUNTRY - OR ALL WILL DIE THE FOAMING DEATH!"

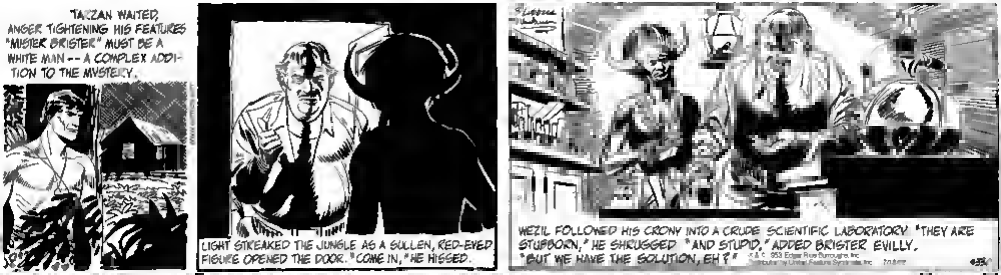
AT WEZI'S COMMAND DURING A WEIRD CEREMONY, THE GOD, CHAC, WARNED THE MOUNTAIN WORSHIPPERS THAT "DOOMING DEATH" AWAITED THOSE WHO DID NOT EVACUATE.
THE REGNANT WORDS DIMINISHED WHEN WEZI MOVED HASTILY AWAY FROM A HOLE IN THE ROCK WALL. NOW TARZAN UNDER-STOOD AND SMILED BEGRUDGINGLY--
THE NATIVES WERE ENTHRALLED BY THE HOAX, FOR THIS CREVICE ECHOED WEZI'S VOICE AS IF, INDEED, THE VERY MOUNTAIN HAD SPOKEN!

"OGWE HAS SPOKEN!" CONCLUDED THE UNCTUOUS WITCH DOCTOR. "HEED HIS WISDOM AND PLAN TO MOVE FROM THE VILLAGE!"

THE TERRIFIED NATIVES STUMBLED FROM THE ROOM, YET SOME STILL COULD NOT BELIEVE THAT THEIR GOD HAD FORSAKEN THEM.

TARZAN HAD STARTED TO FOLLOW WHEN A SHIFTY MOVEMENT CAUGHT HIS EYE. WEZIL, LURKING IN THE BACKGROUND, NOW SNEAKED TOWARD A SECRET EXIT!

TARZAN FOLLOWED THE WITCH DOCTOR THROUGH A CAVERN PASSAGE AND OUT INTO THE SHADOWED JUNGLE.
TANGLED VEGETATION DID NOT IMPEDE NEZIL'S PROGRESS, AND ONLY FURTIVELY DID HE GLANCE ABOUT FOR SIGNS OF PURSUIT.
SOON HE APPROACHED A SMALL, YET FORBIDDING, EDIFICE. A LAMP BURNED WITHIN, SHOWING THAT HE WAS EXPECTED. "MR. DISSER?" HE WHISPERED.


TARZAN WAITED, ANGER TIGHTENING HIS FEATURES. "MISTER BRIGSTER" MUST BE A WHITE MAN -- A COMPLEX ADDITION TO THE MYSTERY.
LIGHT STREAKED THE JUNGLE AS A SULLEN, RED-EYED FIGURE OPENED THE DOOR. "COME IN," HE HISSED.
WE'LL FOLLOWED HIS CRONY INTO A CRUDE SCIENTIFIC LABORATORY. "THEY ARE STUBBORN," HE SHRUGGED. "AND STUPID," ADDED BRIGSTER EVILLY. "BUT WE HAVE THE SOLUTION, EH?"
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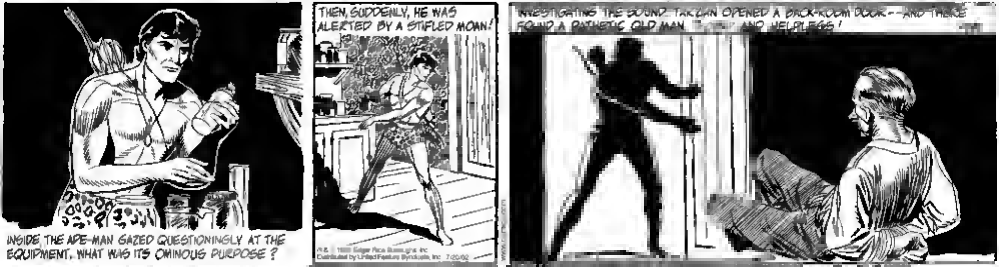
BRISTER SWIGGED FROM A BOTTLE. 'LET 'EM BE STUBBORN -- TOMORROW, THEY ALL DIE!'
"TAKE THIS CONTAINER, WEZIL, N'BOY," HE SNEERED. "WE GOTTA GET MORE STUFF FROM THE CAVE -- FOR YOUR FINAL KITES!"
SOON THE TWO MEN DEPARTED. TARZAN WAITED BREATHLESSLY AS THEY VANISHED IN THE THICKET. NOW HE COULD SEARCH THE HUT.


INSIDE THE APE-MAN GAZED QUESTIONINGLY AT THE EQUIPMENT. WHAT WAS ITS OMINOUS PURPOSE?
THEN, SUDDENLY, HE WAS ALERTED BY A STIFLED MOAN!
N.E. 1980 Edgar Rice Burroughs, Inc.
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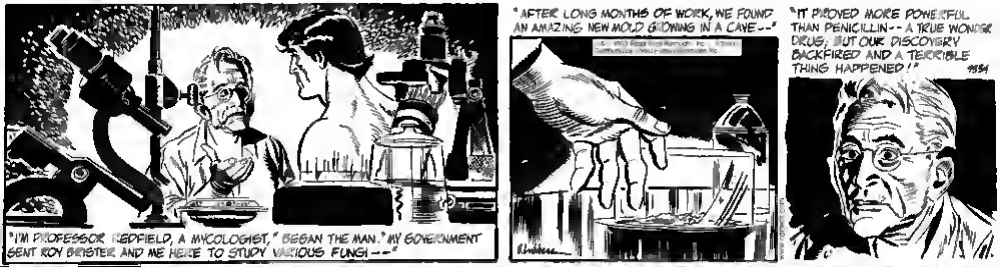
INVESTIGATING THE SOUND, TARZAN OPENED A DARKROOM DOOR — AND THERE FOUND A PATHETIC OLD MAN, [illegible] AND HELPLESS!

AFTER THE WITCH DOCTOR AND " MR. BRISTER" LEFT ON THEIR SECRET MISSION, TARZAN SEARCHED THE STRANGE LABORATORY -- AND THERE FOUND A CAPTIVE!
IMMEDIATELY, HE RELEASED THE OLD MAN AND HELPED HIM TO HIS FEET.
" MANY THANKS," HE SAID, LOOKING INTENTLY AT HIS BENEFACTOR. " LISTEN CAREFULLY," HE GASPED. " THERE ISN'T MUCH TIME."


"I'M PROFESSOR REDFIELD, A MYCOLOGIST," BEGAN THE MAN. "MY GOVERNMENT SENT ROY BEISTER AND ME HERE TO STUDY VARIOUS FUNGI---"
"AFTER LONG MONTHS OF WORK, WE FOUND AN AMAZING NEW MOLD GROWING IN A CAVE--"
"IT PROVED MORE POWERFUL THAN PENICILLIN -- A TRUE WONDER DRUG, BUT OUR DISCOVERY BACKFIRED AND A TERRIBLE THING HAPPENED!"
1954

"OUR PROBLEM WAS TO GET THIS MOLD TO GROW PROFUSELY," SAID REDFIELD. "WE TRIED VARIOUS ENRICHED BROTHS, AND THEN ONE MORNING A STRANGE THING HAPPENED... I STUMBLED INTO THE LAB AND SAW A DEAD MONKEY, FOAM FLECKING HIS LIPS--"
"HE HAD DIED FROM SAMPLING OUR CULTURE MEDIA. THUS, BY SOME PHENOMENON THE LAST BROTH WE ADDED TURNED THE MOLD INTO A LETHAL POISON!"

"HE SOUGHT MORE OF THE MOLD," CONTINUED REDFIELD, "BUT THIS TIME ALMOST GOT KILLED BY SOME LOCAL NATIVES--"
"APPARENTLY WE HAD INFRINGED ON THEIR SACRED LAND. ROY WAS FURIOUS AND SOON BECAME DANGEROUSLY MOODY!"
"FIRST HE TESTED THE POISON, KILLING SOME APES. THEN HE INTENDED TO GET RID OF THE NATIVES--FOR SOME INSANE REASON HE PLANNED WHOLESALE MURDER!"

"OF COURSE, I OBJECTED TO ROY'S MURDEROUS SCHEME," CONCLUDED REDFIELD, "WHICH RESULTED IN MY BEING MADE A PRISONER."
"BUT WHY IS HE DOING THIS?" ASKED TARZAN, "AND HE IS IN ALLIANCE WITH THE NATIVE WITCH DOCTOR -- WHY?"
"I CAN'T TELL YOU," REDFIELD LAMENTED "HE MUST HAVE SOME EVIL SECRET THAT I KNOW NOTHING ABOUT."

"I'M SURE THAT ROY HAS SOME ULTERIOR MOTIVE IN HIS MAD SCHEMING," SAID REDFIELD
ABRUPTLY, A HARSH, SARDONIC VOICE INTERRUPTED THE MEN. "RIGHT YOU ARE, EKOF, OLD BOY!"
BRISTER ADVANCED CAUTIOUSLY, COCKING HIS PISTOL. "--BUT THERE'S NO NEED TO WORRY ANY LONGER, IS THERE?"
1991

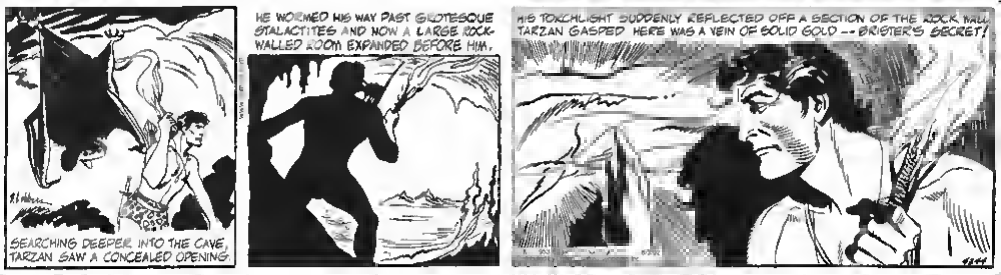
ROY BRISTER, RETURNED, AND FOUND THAT PROFESSOR REDFIELD HAD TALKED TO THE APE-MAN. FURIOUS, HE NOW PLANNED TO KILL THIS INTRUDER.
BUT BEFORE A SHOT WAS FIRED, TARZAN GRABBED A CHEMICAL VIAL AND THREW IT AT HIS ENEMY!
THE GLASS AND ITS FUMING CONTENTS SPLATTERED AGAINST THE WALL BEHIND BRISTER, DIVERTING HIS ATTENTION.

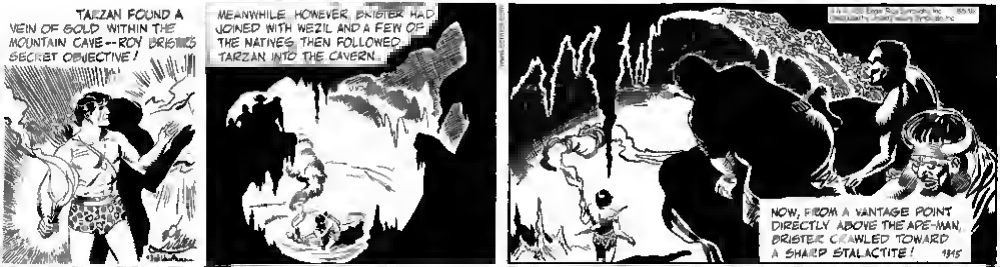
NOW, WHILE THE KILLER WAS STUNNED, TARZAN PUSHED REDFIELD TO THE FLOOR, OUT OF HARM'S WAY.
THEN HE RACED TO THE TABLE AND EXTINGUISHED THE LAMP, PLUNGING THE ROOM INTO BLACKNESS.
RECOVERING BRISTER LAUGHED "VERY CLEVER, BUT THE DARK WON'T STOP BULLETS!" AND INSTANTLY HE FIRED IN THE APE-MAN'S DIRECTION!

HOPING TO DRAW BRISTER'S RAPID GUN FIRE AWAY FROM REDFIELD TARZAN CRASHED THROUGH THE LAB WINDOW
HIS ENEMY INTENDED TO FOLLOW, BUT STUMBLED OVER THE PROSTRATE FORM OF THE PROFESSOR.
SNARLING, HE STRUCK DOWN WITH HIS GUN BUTT-A VICIOUS BLOW TO REDFIELD'S HEAD!
1941

TENSION MOUNTED AS BRISTER LEFT THE LAB, SEEKING OUT THE APE-MAN IN THE JUNGLE DARKNESS.
TARZAN WAS GRIM. HIS ENEMY ADVANCED SLOWLY, SMART ENOUGH TO MAKE AN ELUSIVE TARGET.
TARZAN THEN VANISHED INTO THE THICKET, KNOWING THAT BRISTER WOULD FOLLOW HIS TRAIL -- INTO A TRAP!

TARZAN BACKTRACKED TO THE CAVE OF OVAE, HOPING TO LEARN BRISTER'S REAL VENTURE. NOW HE SELECTED WOOD FOR A TORCH.
...A TREE LIMB RICH WITH INFLAMMABLE SAP. HE IGNITED IT, THEN WALKED BOLDLY THROUGH THE ENTRANCE.
SEVERAL BATS FLUTTERED BY, PROTESTING HIS INTRUSION. PRESENTLY TARZAN FOUND THE FUNGI -- BUT WHAT OTHER SECRET DID THIS GLOOMY CAVERN HOLD?


SEARCHING DEEPER INTO THE CAVE, TARZAN SAW A CONCEALED OPENING.
HE WORMED HIS WAY PAST GROTESQUE STALACTITES AND NOW A LARGE ROCK-WALLED ROOM EXPANDED BEFORE HIM.
HIS TORCHLIGHT SUDDENLY REFLECTED OFF A SECTION OF THE ROCK WALL. TARZAN GASPED. HERE WAS A VEIN OF SOLID GOLD -- BRIGGER'S SECRET!


TARZAN FOUND A VEIN OF GOLD WITHIN THE MOUNTAIN CAVE -- ROY BRISTER'S SECRET OBJECTIVE!
MEANWHILE, HOWEVER, BRISTER HAD JOINED WITH WEZIL AND A FEW OF THE NATIVES, THEN FOLLOWED TARZAN INTO THE CAVERN...
NOW, FROM A VANTAGE POINT DIRECTLY ABOVE THE APE-MAN, BRISTER CRAWLED TOWARD A SHARP STALACTITE!

ERSTER SUCCEEDED IN LOOSING A SPEARLIKE STALACTITE AND HE AND THE WITCH DOCTOR SMILED CONFIDENTLY AS IT HURTLED DOWNWARD

BUT TARZAN WAS INSTINCTIVELY WARNED AND TWISTED VIOLENTLY, JUST MANAGING TO AVOID THE DEADLY MISSILE!

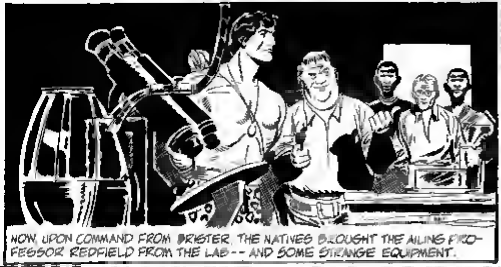
"ALL RIGHT, WEZIL," SAID BRISTER, "GET YOUR BONS DOWN THERE TO TIE OUR AGILE FRIEND'S HANDS--"
THEN HE CONTINUED, "SO YOU FOUND ME OUT-- MUCH MORE TANGIBLE WEALTH THAN A LOT OF FUNGI, EH?"
"NOW WE'VE GOT TO GO BACK AFTER PROFESSOR REDFIELD," MUSED THE APE-MANS ENEMY "YOU'VE BOTH BEEN GETTING IN MY HAIR--SO, NATURALLY, YOU MUST DIE!"
1917

OUTSIDE THE CAVE, BRISTER INSTRUCTED WEZL... "BRING YOUR NATIVES UP HERE FOR THEIR FINAL RITES-- I'LL DISPOSE OF MY TWO MEDDLERS!"
"IT'S TOO BAD THOSE NATIVES HAVE TO DIE," SAID ROY. "BUT IT'S NOT MY FAULT THEY HAD TO WORSHIP HERE."
THING MUST BE DONE TO STOP BRISTER'S EVIL PLAN-- BUT WHAT?"

SOON THE SMALL LABORATORY CAME IN SIGHT. "WHY DID WEZIL COOPERATE WITH YOU?" ASKED TARZAN SUDDENLY. "HE HAS NO USE FOR GOLD."

BRISTER LAUGHED. "AH, BUT HE **HAS** GOT USE FOR THE ENRICHED FLUID THAT TURNS THE WONDER DRUG MOLD INTO A DEADLY POISON!"

"I GIVE HIM THE SECRET OF THE 'FOAMING DEATH' AND HE CAN HEAL OR KILL AS HE WISHES—WITH TRUE POWER FOR A PRIMITIVE WITCH DOCTOR!"


NOW, UPON COMMAND FROM BRISTER, THE NATIVES BROUGHT THE AILING PROFESSOR REDFIELD FROM THE LAB -- AND SOME STRANGE EQUIPMENT.

"I ALWAYS DID HAVE A FLAIR FOR THE DRAMATIC," ROY MUSED. "THUS I THINK IT FITTING THAT YOU BOTH DIE THE 'FOAMING DEATH'."

HIS EYES GLITTERED. "BUT UNDER THE CIRCUMSTANCES I HAVE PLANNED, YOU'LL WANT TO DIE THIS WAY -- IN FACT, YOU WILL THANK ME FOR BEING SO MERCIFUL!"

WHILE HIS ENEMIES STOOD BEFORE HIM AS CAPTIVES, ROY BRISTER EXPLAINED A SADISTIC PLAN TO DESTROY THEM BY THE FOAMING DEATH".

ALONG WITH NATIVE CONFEDERATES, HE URGED TARZAN AND PROFESSOR REDFIELD A SHORT DISTANCE INTO THE JUNGLE.

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PRESENTLY THEY CAME TO AN OPEN GLADE. BRISTER SNEERED "HERE'S THE STAGE FOR MY LITTLE DRAMA -- WHERE YOU CAN EASILY BE FOUND BY JUNGLE SCAVENGERS!"

NON-BRISTER'S TORTURE PLAN UNFOLDED AS TARZAN AND REDFIELD WERE STAKED SPREAD-EAGLED ON THE GROUND
ROY THEN SET UP A CONICAL CONTRAPTION OVER THEIR HEADS, USING STICKS AND TWO ROLLED PALM LEAVES.
HE CHUCKLED EVILLY AS HE POURED POISON INTO THE FUNNELS. "THIS LIQUID WILL SEEP THROUGH--AVAILABLE WHENEVER YOU WISH!"

"THE MOST INTERESTING SCAVENGER IS THE HYENA," MUSED BRISTER. "THEY RELISH THE CHANCE AT HELPLESS HUMAN BEINGS!"
"BUT REMEMBER... IF THEY BECOME TOO ANNOYING, JUST OPEN YOUR MOUTHS AND DRINK."
"HE'S A MANIAC!" GASPED REDFIELD. THEN THE MEN WAITED IN SILENCE -- A HYPNOTIC SILENCE INSTILLED BY THE POISON THAT DRIPPED ONTO THEIR FACES...

PRESENTLY THE SCENT OF THE MEN WAS WAFTED TO A PACK OF HYENAS--
HORRID, SLINKING FORMS THAT APPEARED FROM THE TANGLED FOLIAGE.

THE BEASTS LAUGHED
HIDEOUSLY WHEN THEY SAW
THE EXPOSED VICTIMS.
BOLDLY NOW, THEY CLOSED
IN FOR THE KILL!
#39

THE SCAVENGERS IMMEDIATELY ATTACKED THE TWO MEN, SLASHING, NIPPING AT THEIR VULNERABLE FLESH.
SUFFERING, YET NOT WITHOUT HOPE, TARZAN REPEATEDLY ISSUED THE PLAINTIVE CALL OF THE APE IN DISTRESS.
BUT THE ANGUISHED REDFIELD HAD ALREADY TURNED TOWARD THE TRICKLE OF POISON. "DON'T!" CRIED THE APE-MAN. "WE STILL HAVE A CHANCE!"
1955

AT TARZAN'S BIDDING, THE PROFESSOR WAITED, BUT NO APE ANSWERED THE CRY FOR HELP
AND NOW A NEW TERROR APPEARED -- THE SNARLING FACE OF A MARAUDING LION!
ON SEEING THE MAN THINGS NUMA ABRUPTLY CHARGED THE HYENAS. HE TOO WAS STARVING -- BUT HE WISHED TO BECOME SOLE VICTOR OF THE SPOILS!
1957
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BATTLE NOISES ECHOED THROUGH THE FOREST AS A LION CLASHED WITH A PACK OF HYENAS OVER POSSESSION OF THE HUMAN PRISONERS.

"I HOPE THE LION WINS," SAID REDFIELD, BITTERLY. "IT'S NICE GLAMOROUS TO BE DEVOURED BY THE KING OF BEASTS."

"DON'T DESPAIR," REPLIED TARZAN. "THE APES I CALLED CAN STILL ARRIVE IN THESE FEW MINUTES OF RESPITE."
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SOON THE LAST HYENA HAD BEEN KILLED OR DRIVEN AWAY. ALL SEEMED LOST NOW AS NUMA JAWS SLAVERING ADVANCED TO FEAST ON HIS PRIZE ....
BUT SUDDENLY HE WAS INTERRUPTED BY A HIDEOUS, PIERCING SCREAM; THE BATTLE CHALLENGE OF THE BULL APE !

THE APE CHALLENGE RANG CLEAR, AND TARZAN'S FRIEND, BULAT, DROPPED FROM THE TREES WITH THREE BURLY COMPANIONS.

INSANE WITH FURY, TAIL THRASHING HIDEOUSLY, NUMA ROARED HIS CHALLENGE!

TENSION AND EXCITEMENT GRIPPED THE APE-MAN. THIS WOULD BE A FIGHT UNPARALLELED IN JUNGLE HISTORY!

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THE APES ATTACKED BLINDLY, SUFFERING THE PAIN OF NUMA'S POWERFUL, GRIPPING PAWS---
BULAT, HOWEVER, THE WISEST OF THE FOUR, AT LAST SAW AN OPENING---
THE FURIOUS APE LOWERED HIS HEAD AND BUTTED THE LION'S STOMACH -- AND NOW, AS NUMA LOST BALANCE, WRAPPED HAIRY ARMS ABOUT HIS BODY!
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THE SURVIVING APE JOINED BULAT AND, WITH HUMAN-LIKE CUNNING, EACH GRABBED ONE OF NUMA'S FORELEGS IN A RELENTLESS, CRUSHING HOLD!
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NUMA'S NECK SNAPPED AND HE COLLAPSED QUIVERING AND LIFELESS BEFORE HIS VICTORS--ONCE AGAIN THE JUNGLE ECHOED THE CRY OF THE VICTORIOUS BULL APE!

CALMED NOW, AFTER THEIR VICTORY, THE LOYAL APES FREED THE PRISONERS.

TARZAN THEN RETURNED TO THE LABORATORY WITH THE AILING PROFESSOR...

AND AFTER TENDING REDFIELD'S WOUNDS, HE TURNED HIS THOUGHTS TO COY BRISTER AND WEZIL, WHO PLANNED TO SLAUGHTER THE NATIVES -- THEY MUST BE STOPPED!

HOPING TO FOIL ROY BRISTER'S MURDEROUS PLANS, TARZAN AND THE APES SPED TOWARD THE YAWNING CAVE OF OVAR
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SEVERAL NATIVES WERE GUARDING THE ENTRANCE, BUT BECAME PARALYZED WITH FEAR AT SIGHT OF THE SAVAGE TRIO!
4365

SWIFTLY, VIOLENTLY, TARZAN AND HIS SIMIAN COMPANIONS SILENCED THE GUARDS BEFORE ANY WARNING COULD BE SOUNDED

CAUTIOUSLY NOW, THEY TREADED DOWN A PASSAGE TO THE CEREMONY ROOM

SOON BRISTER'S FIGURE LOOMED BEFORE THEM-- GLOATING AS HE WATCHED WEZIL BEGIN THE RITES

"DRINK, AND BE AT PEACE WITH OVAR" COMMANDED WEZIL
IN THE MIDST OF THE DEATH CEREMONY AN UNSUSPECTING NATIVE REACHED OUT OBEDIENTLY--
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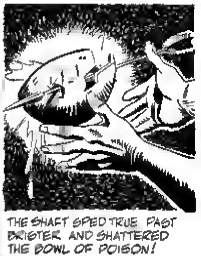
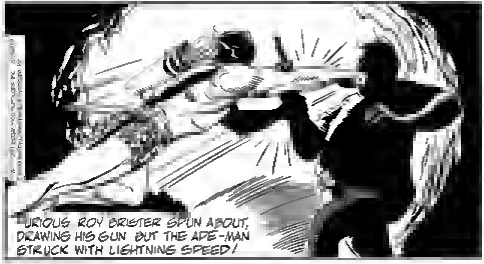
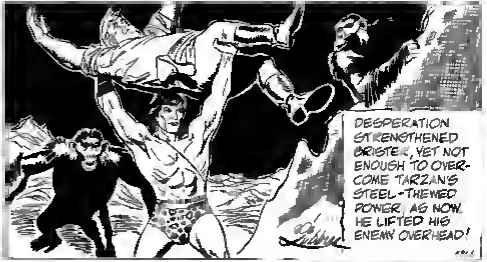
8/29/03

BUT NOW TARZAN LEAPED INTO ACTION. QUICKLY CAREFULLY, HE FIRED AN ARROW FROM HIS BOW


THE SHAFT SPED TRUE PAST BRISTER AND SHATTERED THE BOWL OF POISON!


TARZAN, ROY BRISTER SPUN ABOUT, DRAWING HIS GUN BUT THE APE-MAN STRUCK WITH LIGHTNING SPEED!


DESPERATION STRENGTHENED BRISTER, YET NOT ENOUGH TO OVERCOME TARZAN'S STEEL-THEWED POWER, AS NOW, HE LIFTED HIS ENEMY OVERHEAD!

WITH A MIGHTY LUNGE, THE APE-MAN HEAVED ROY BRISTER AGAINST THE CAVE WALL...

THE BIG MAN CRUMPLED IN PAIN, AND NOW A SHARP STALACTITE BROKE LOOSE FROM THE ROOF OF THE CAVERN --
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DOWNWARD PLUNGED THE JAGGED ROCK, A DEATH MISSILE THAT QUICKLY ENDED BRISTER'S REIGN OF TERROR!

BESTER'S CORPSE PANICKED THE WITCH-DOCTOR, AND HE NOW MADE A DESPERATE EFFORT TO ESCAPE--
Joe Foe Dunnaght, Inc B-D 102
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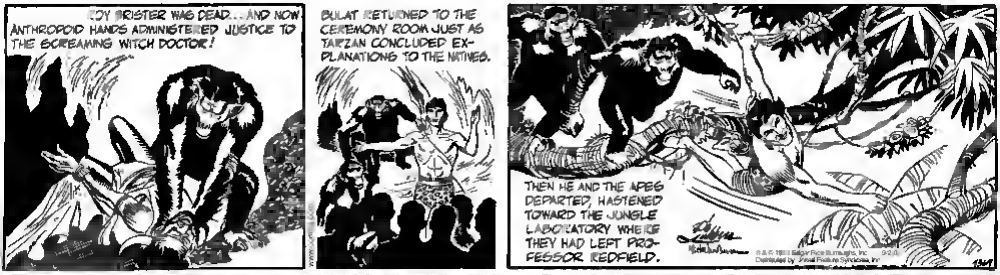
BUT HE DID NOT ESCAPE THE WATCHFUL EYES OF BULAT, WHO LUMBERED FORWARD IN PURSUIT --

AND SOON A DEATH SCREAM ECHOED THROUGH THE CAVE AS HAIRY VINDICTIVE ARMS SOUGHT WEZIL'S QUIVERING THROAT!


ROY BRISTER WAS DEAD... AND NOW ANTHROPOID HANDS ADMINISTERED JUSTICE TO THE SCREAMING WITCH DOCTOR!
BULAT RETURNED TO THE CEREMONY ROOM JUST AS TARZAN CONCLUDED EXPLANATIONS TO THE NATIVES.
THEN HE AND THE APES DEPARTED, HASTENED TOWARD THE JUNGLE LABORATORY WHERE THEY HAD LEFT PROFESSOR REDFIELD.
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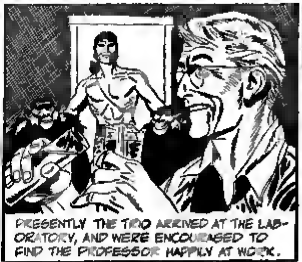
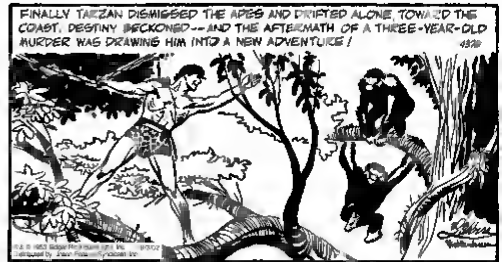
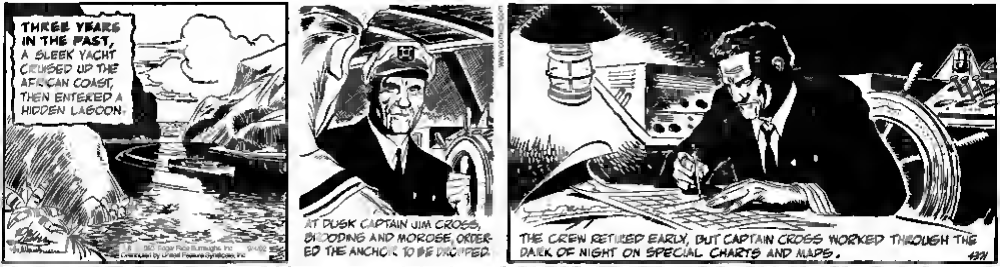
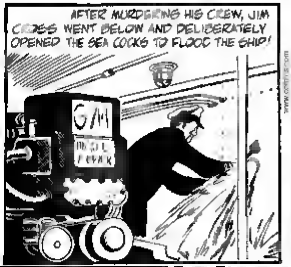

PRESENTLY THE TRIO ARRIVED AT THE LABORATORY, AND WERE ENCOURAGED TO FIND THE PROFESSOR HAPPILY AT WORK.

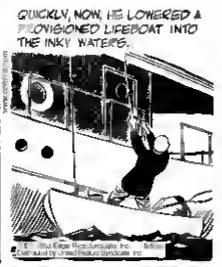
THE APE-MAN SUMMED UP THE STORY AND ASSURED KEEPHELD OF HIS FUTURE SAFETY, THEN BID FAREWELL.


FINALLY TARZAN DISMISSED THE APES AND DRIFTED ALONE, TOWARD THE COAST. DESTINY BECKONED --AND THE AFTERMATH OF A THREE-YEAR-OLD MURDER WAS DRAWING HIM INTO A NEW ADVENTURE!
43/10

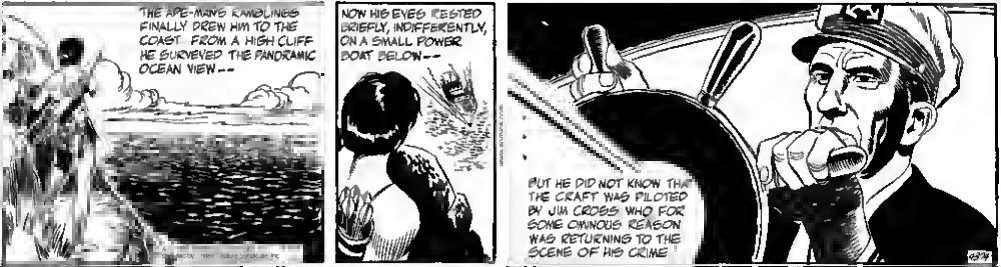

THREE YEARS IN THE PAST, A SLEEK YACHT CRUISED UP THE AFRICAN COAST, THEN ENTERED A HIDDEN LAGOON.
AT DUSK CAPTAIN JIM CROSS, BROODING AND MOROSE, ORDERED THE ANCHOR TO BE DROPPED.
THE CREW RETIRED EARLY, BUT CAPTAIN CROSS WORKED THROUGH THE DARK OF NIGHT ON SPECIAL CHARTS AND MAPS.

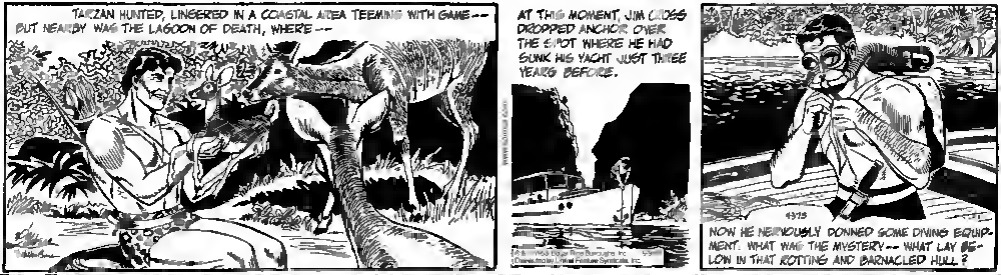
NOW CROSS' ACTIONS WERE SHROUDED IN MYSTERY--
HE SNEAKED QUIETLY TO THE CREWS QUARTERS AND LOCKED THE DOOR--
THEN, DRAWING A KNIFE, HE PADDED SOFTLY TO THE DECK. THE NIGHT WATCH TURNED IN ALARM, BUT WAS QUICKLY SILENCED!

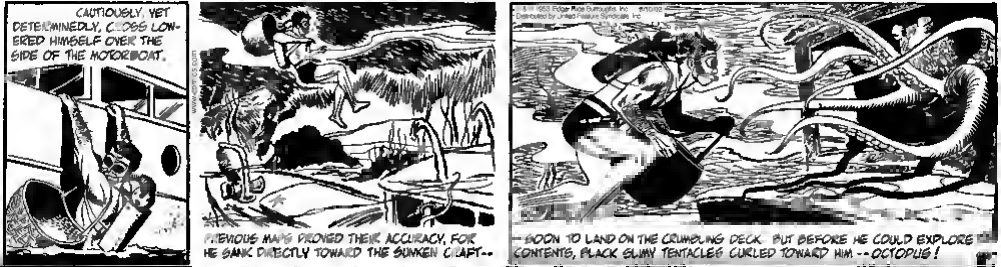

AFTER MURDERING HIS CREW, JIM CROSS WENT BELOW AND DELIBERATELY OPENED THE SEA COCKS TO FLOOD THE SHIP!
G/M

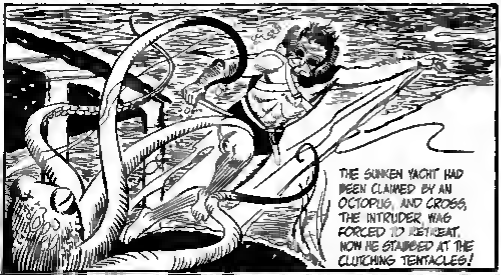

QUICKLY, NOW, HE LOWERED A PROVISIONED LIFEBOAT INTO THE INKY WATERS.

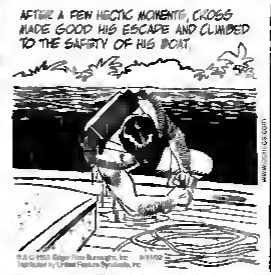
THUS, AS CROSS ROWED TO SAFETY, THE DEATH SHIP SANK SLOWLY BENEATH THE SURFACE — HERE WAS A TURBULENT PRELUDE TO TARZAN'S FUTURE!


THE APE-MANS RAMBLINGS FINALLY DREW HIM TO THE COAST. FROM A HIGH CLIFF HE SURVEYED THE PANORAMIC OCEAN VIEW--
NOW HIS EYES RESTED BRIEFLY, INDIFFERENTLY, ON A SMALL POWER BOAT BELOW--
BUT HE DID NOT KNOW THAT THE CRAFT WAS PILOTED BY JIM CROSS WHO FOR SOME OMINOUS REASON WAS RETURNING TO THE SCENE OF HIS CRIME


TARZAN HUNTED, LINGERED IN A COASTAL AREA TEEMING WITH GAME--
BUT NEARBY WAS THE LAGOON OF DEATH, WHERE--
AT THIS MOMENT, JIM CROSS DROPPED ANCHOR OVER THE SPOT WHERE HE HAD SUNK HIS YACHT JUST THREE YEARS BEFORE.
NOW HE NERVOUSLY DONNED SOME DIVING EQUIPMENT. WHAT WAS THE MYSTERY-- WHAT LAY BELOW IN THAT ROTTING AND BARNACLED HULL?


CAUTIOUSLY, YET DETERMINEDLY, CROSS LOWERED HIMSELF OVER THE SIDE OF THE MOTORBOAT.
OBVIOUS MAN'S PROVED THEIR ACCURACY, FOR HE SANK DIRECTLY TOWARD THE SUNKEN CRAFT--
SOON TO LAND ON THE CRUMBLING DECK. BUT BEFORE HE COULD EXPLORE ITS CONTENTS, BLACK SLIMY TENTACLES CURLED TOWARD HIM -- OCTOPUS!


THE SUNKEN YACHT HAD BEEN CLAIMED BY AN OCTOPUS, AND CROSS, THE INTRUDER, WAS FORCED TO RETREAT. NOW HE STABBED AT THE CLUTCHING TENTACLES!


AFTER A FEW HECTIC MOMENTS, CROSS MADE GOOD HIS ESCAPE AND CLIMBED TO THE SAFETY OF HIS BOAT.
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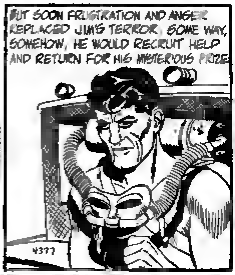
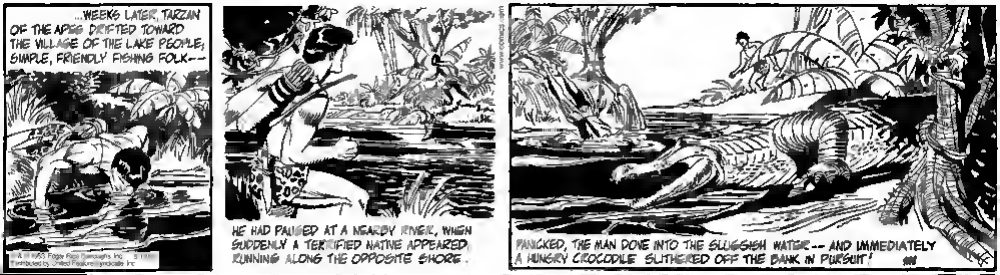

BUT SOON FRUSTRATION AND ANGER REPLACED JIM'S TERROR. SOME WAY, SOMEHOW, HE WOULD RECRUIT HELP AND RETURN FOR HIS MYSTERIOUS PRIZE.
4377


...WEEKS LATER, TARZAN OF THE APES DRIFTED TOWARD THE VILLAGE OF THE LAKE PEOPLE; SIMPLE, FRIENDLY FISHING FOLK--
HE HAD PAUSED AT A NEARBY RIVER, WHEN SUDDENLY A TERRIFIED NATIVE APPEARED RUNNING ALONG THE OPPOSITE SHORE.
PANICKED, THE MAN DOVE INTO THE SLUGGISH WATERS-- AND IMMEDIATELY A HUNGRY CROCODILE SLITHERED OFF THE BANK IN PURSUIT!

GUALA, THE CROCODILE, ANTICIPATED A TASTY MORSEL IN THE FLOUNDERING NATIVE --

-- BUT HE DID NOT ANTICIPATE A CHALLENGE FROM THE JUNGLE LORD!

STEEL THEWS GRADUALLY THE SAURIAN'S GAPING JAWS, HELD THEM IN CHECK-- AND NOW, TARZAN STRADDLED HIS ENEMY'S SCALY BODY!

THE APE-MAN'S KNIFE REPEATEDLY STRUCK GUALAG VULNERABLE BELLY, AND FINALLY THE MIGHTY CROCODILE SUCCUMBED!
THEN TARZAN LED THE NATIVE GENTLY TO SAFETY.
"HELP ME," PLEADED THE MAN. "HELP ME ESCAPE THE WRATH OF THE OCTOPUS GOD!"

TARZAN JUST SAVED A NATIVE FROM GIMLA, THE CROCODILE, BUT THE FELLOW WAS SHAKEN BY A MORE PRESSING FEAR

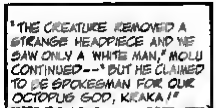
"I AM MOLU, OF THE LAKE PEOPLE, CHOSEN FOR SACRIFICE TONIGHT. I HAD HOPED OF ESCAPE--BUT HE WILL BRING ME BACK!"

"WHO?" HISSED THE APE-MAN. MOLU SHUDDERED. "THE WHITE DEMON WHO BREATHES UNDERWATER!"

KRAKA - THE OCTOPUS
ACKNOWLEDGING THE AIE-MANS CURIOSITY, MOLU BEGAN HIS STORY. "MY PEOPLE WORSHIP KRAKA, A GIANT OCTOPUS --"
"TO INSURE SAFETY FOR OUR FISHERMEN WE OCCASIONALLY APPEASE KRAKA WITH HUMAN SACRIFICE, THE CONDEMNED CRIMINALS."
MOLU CONTINUED." IT WAS ON THE EVE OF OUR LAST CEREMONY WHEN THE TERROR STARTED -- WHEN THE WHITE DEMON FIEND APPEARED!"

"THE LAST SACRIFICIAL CEREMONY WAS IN FULL PROGRESS," RELATED MOU. "MY PEOPLE WERE AT THE CLIFF'S EDGE, KRAKA'S OFFERING WAS READY--"
"WHEN SUDDENLY THERE WAS A DISTURBANCE BELOW. THE WATERS SWIRLED AND AN ARM APPEARED--"
"ABRUPTLY A GHOSTLIKE FIGURE ROSE FROM THE LAKE AND CLIMBED ONTO A ROCK! WE WERE PETRIFIED!"

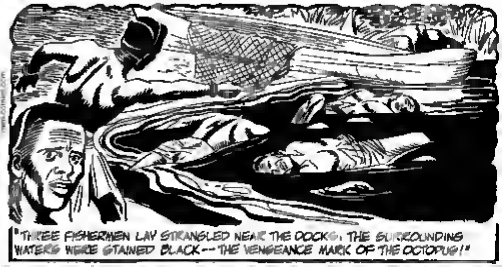
"THE CREATURE REMOVED A STRANGE HEADPIECE AND WE SAW ONLY A WHITE MAN," MOLU CONTINUED--"BUT HE CLAIMED TO BE SPOKESMAN FOR OUR OCTOPUS GOD, KEAKA!"



"KEAKA WISHES THE LAKE PEOPLE TO WORK FOR ME; HE FOLLOWED. REPORT TO MY BOAT IN THE MORNING, OR DIE!"

"THEN THIS STRANGE FIGURE LEAPED BACK INTO THE WATER. BEFORE OUR STUNNED EYES HE DISAPPEARED AND DID NOT RISE AGAIN!"

"WE WERE AFRAID OF THE DEMON WHO BREATHED UNDERWATER," SAID HOLD, "BUT SO AFRAID THAT NONE MET HIM AT THE DOCK."
"--THEN, TWO MORNINGS LATER, I MADE A HORRIBLE DISCOVERY---"
4/15

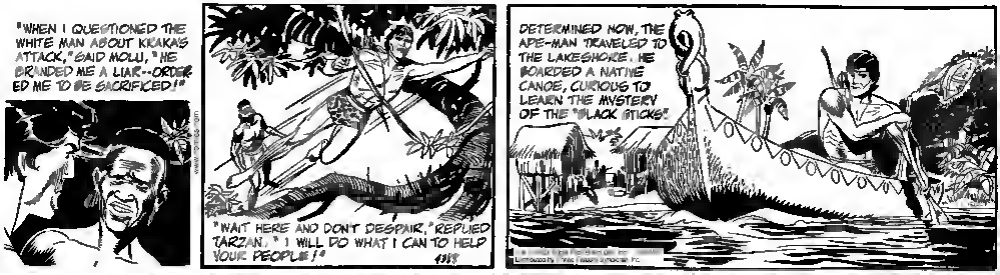

"THREE FISHERMEN LAY STRANGLED NEAR THE DOCK. THE SURROUNDING WATERS WERE STAINED BLACK--THE VENGEANCE MARK OF THE OCTOPUS!"

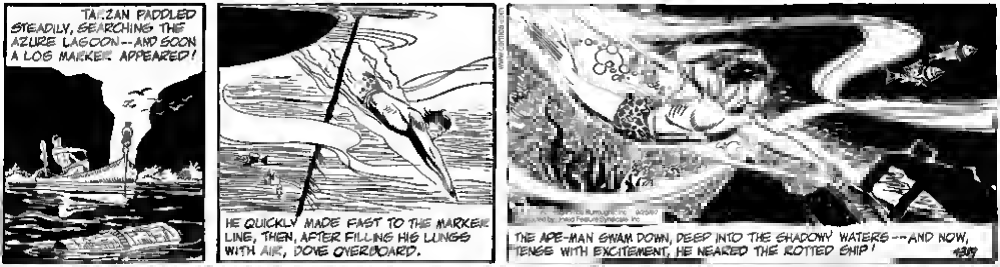
"NOW CONVINCED, WE QUICKLY REPORTED TO THE DEMON'S BOAT," CONCLUDED MOLO. "WE WERE TO DIVE FOR A MYSTERIOUS OBJECTIVE AT THE LAGOON BOTTOM."

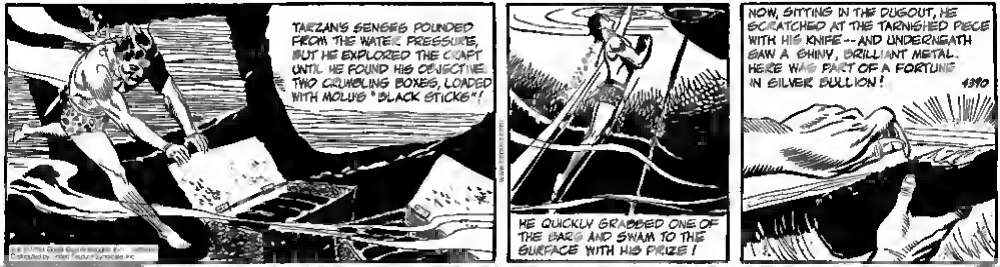
"THUS IT BEGAN, BUT PEOPLE STILL DIE. THE WATER IS TOO DEEP AND SOMETIMES THEIR LUNGS AND EARS BURST!"

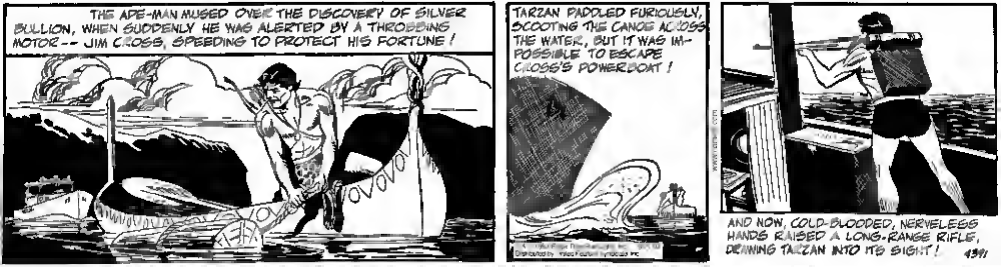
MOLO'S STORY LEFT TARZAN SHOULDERING IN ANGER. HE WOULD TRACK DOWN THIS INFAMOUS "WHITE DEMON" -- AND DESTROY HIM!

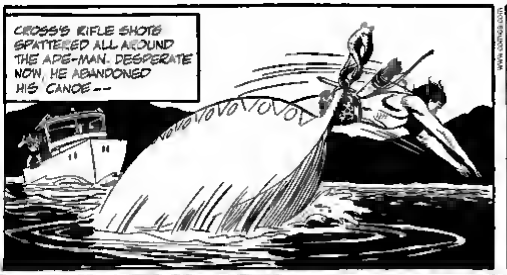
MOLUS STORY TOLD HOW HIS PEOPLE WERE BEING DUPED, MALTREATED BY THE AVARICIOUS JIM CROSS -- THE "WHITE DEMON" WHO FORCED THEM TO DIVE TO THE BOTTOM OF THE LAGOON...
4361
"WHAT IS THIS MAN'S MOTIVE?" ASKED TARZAN. "WHAT DOES HE CLAIM THAT THE OCTOPUS GOD WANTS?"
"ONLY SOME UGLY, BLACK STICKS LYING IN A SUNKEN BOAT-- BUT I WAS NEARLY KILLED BY KRAKA! WHY? IF I WAS DOING WHAT HE WISHED?"

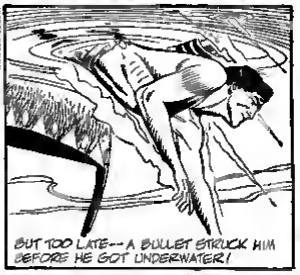

"WHEN I QUESTIONED THE WHITE MAN ABOUT KRAKAS ATTACK," SAID MOLU, "HE BRANDED ME A LIAR--ORDERED ME TO BE SACRIFICED!"
"WAIT HERE AND DON'T DESPAIR," REPLIED TARZAN. "I WILL DO WHAT I CAN TO HELP YOUR PEOPLE!"
DETERMINED NOW, THE APE-MAN TRAVELED TO THE LAKESHORE. HE BOARDED A NATIVE CANOE, CURIOUS TO LEARN THE MYSTERY OF THE "BLACK STICKS".


TARZAN PADDLED STEADILY, SEARCHING THE AZURE LAGOON--AND SOON A LOG MARKER APPEARED!
HE QUICKLY MADE FAST TO THE MARKER LINE, THEN, AFTER FILLING HIS LUNGS WITH AIR, DOVE OVERBOARD.
THE APE-MAN SWAM DOWN, DEEP INTO THE SHADOWY WATERS--AND NOW, TENSE WITH EXCITEMENT, HE NEARED THE ROTTED SHIP!


TARZAN'S SENSES POUNDED FROM THE WATER PRESSURE, BUT HE EXPLORED THE CRAFT UNTIL HE FOUND HIS OBJECTIVE: TWO CRUMBLING BOXES, LOADED WITH MOLDY "BLACK STICKS"!
HE QUICKLY GRABBED ONE OF THE BARS AND SWAM TO THE SURFACE WITH HIS PRIZE!
NOW, SITTING IN THE DUGOUT, HE SCRATCHED AT THE TARNISHED PIECE WITH HIS KNIFE -- AND UNDERNEATH SAW A SHINY, BRILLIANT METAL. HERE WAS PART OF A FORTUNE IN SILVER BULLION!
1890


THE APE-MAN MUSED OVER THE DISCOVERY OF SILVER BULLION, WHEN SUDDENLY HE WAS ALERTED BY A THROBBING MOTOR -- JIM CROSS, SPEEDING TO PROTECT HIS FORTUNE!
TARZAN PADDLED FURIOUSLY, SCOOTING THE CANOE ACROSS THE WATER, BUT IT WAS IMPOSSIBLE TO ESCAPE CROSS'S POWERBOAT!
AND NOW, COLD-BLOODED, NERVELESS HANDS RAISED A LONG-RANGE RIFLE, DRAWING TARZAN INTO ITS SIGHT!
4/11


CROSS'S RIFLE SHOTS SPATTERED ALL AROUND THE APE-MAN. DESPERATE NOW, HE ABANDONED HIS CANOE--


BUT TOO LATE--- A BULLET STRUCK HIM BEFORE HE GOT UNDERWATER!

CROSS YELLED IN SADISTIC GLEE, "HURRY UP! WHOEVER HE IS, THIS IS ONE POOL FISH WHO WON'T GET AWAY!"

TARZAN HAD JUST DISCOVERED THE GALVEK BULLION WHEN HE WAS FIRED UPON AND WOUNDED BY JIM CROSSE!

PAINFULLY, HE STRUGGLED UP TOWARD THE FLOATING CANOE.

THE APE-MAN BROKE THE SURFACE, USING THE DUGOUT AS A SHIELD. CROSSE' BOAT ADVANCED STEADILY, BUT EVEN NOW HE HAD CONTRIVED A WAY TO ESCAPE!
4/18
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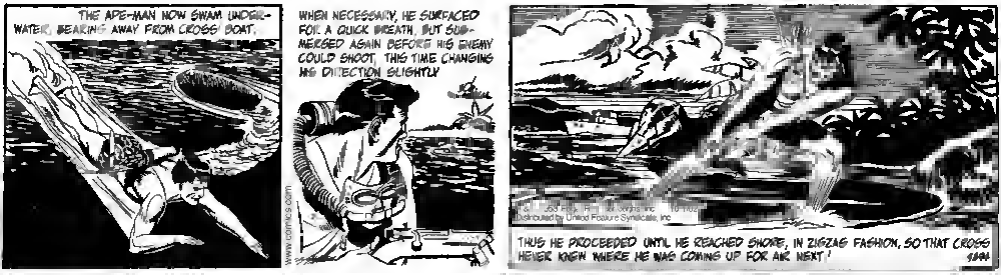
THE APE-MAN NOW SWAM UNDER-WATER, BEARING AWAY FROM CROSS' BOAT.
WHEN NECESSARY, HE SURFACED FOR A QUICK BREATH, BUT SUB-MERGED AGAIN BEFORE HIS ENEMY COULD SHOOT, THIS TIME CHANGING HIS DIRECTION SLIGHTLY.
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THUS HE PROCEEDED UNTIL HE REACHED SHORE, IN ZIGZAG FASHION, SO THAT CROSS NEVER KNEW WHERE HE WAS COMING UP FOR AIR NEXT!

TARZAN'S WOUND WAS NOT SERIOUS, BUT HE WAS FORCED TO STAY IN THE SHELTER OF THE JUNGLE TO CONVALESCE . . .
1918
THEN, ONE MORNING AFTER HIS RECOVERY, THE APE-MAN'S KEEN EARS PERCEIVED SOME FURTIVE FOOTSTEPS - - -
HE INVESTIGATED AND FOUND JIM CROWLEY, BUT, NEVER HAVING SEEN HIM CLOSELY BEFORE, TARZAN'S ONLY CONCERN WAS TOWARD A STRANGE WHITE MAN.
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TARZAN QUICKLY ACCOSTED AND QUESTIONED THE STRANGER. "WHO ARE YOU?" HE ASKED GRUFFLY.
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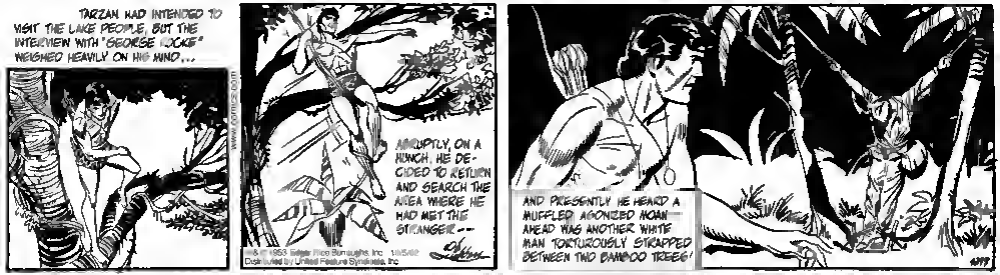
CROSS SEEMED UNNATURALLY FLUSTERED, BUT FINALLY STAMMERED A REPLY. "I-AH-WELL, HERE ARE MY IDENTIFICATION PAPERS."
www.ERBzine.com

"GEORGE ROCKE -- REPRESENTATIVE OF THE SOUTHAMPTON INSURANCE COMPANY," READ TARZAN. "YES," SAID CROSS, SMOOTHLY TAKING HIS LEAD. "I'M HERE INVESTIGATING SOME MISSING BULLION."

CROSS CONTINUED HIS TALE. "WE BELIEVE THAT A SILVER BULLION CONSIGNMENT FOR LONDON WAS LOST OR STOLEN--"

ALTHOUGH DISTURBED BY SOME UNKNOWN FACTOR, TARZAN AND BUSSER DECIDED TO LEAVE. "I THINK WE'RE AFTER THE SAME MAN -- WHEN I GET HIM, I'LL LET YOU KNOW."
MARC SWAYZE


TARZAN HAD INTENDED TO VISIT THE LAKE PEOPLE, BUT THE INTERVIEW WITH "GEORGE LOCKE" WEIGHED HEAVILY ON HIS MIND...
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ABRUPTLY, ON A HUNCH, HE DECIDED TO RETURN AND SEARCH THE AREA WHERE HE HAD MET THE STRANGER...
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AND PRESENTLY HE HEARD A MUFFLED AGONIZED MOAN— AHEAD WAS ANOTHER WHITE MAN TORTUROUSLY STRAPPED BETWEEN TWO BAMBOO TREES!

THE APE-MAN RETURNED TO THE AREA WHERE HE HAD MET JIM CROSS -- AND THERE FOUND A WHITE MAN, LASHED BETWEEN TWO BAMBOO TREES!
A HORRIBLE FATE -- IF TARZAN HAD NOT APPEARED -- FOR HE WOULD HAVE BEEN TORN APART BY THE RAPIDLY GROWING TREES!
"I'M GEORGE ROCKE," GASPED THE MAN. "I KNOW," REPLIED TARZAN. "SEEMS LIKE 'FRIEND' CROSS HAS DUPED US BOTH."

RECUPERATING QUICKLY, GEORGE ROCKE SUPPLIED THE APE-MAN WITH BACKGROUND INFORMATION ON CROSS'S --THE BULLION HE STOLE & CACHED NEARBY.
"COME ON, I'LL SHOW YOU. IT WAS THERE THAT I STUPIDLY ALLOWED HIM TO CATCH ME--!"
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THE MEN PROCEEDED TO A SMALL CAVE, AND THERE TARZAN SAW CROSS'S TREASURE -- A FORTUNE, TAKEN FROM THE DEAD ALREADY!

THE TWO MEN HAD BEEN INSPECTING CECIL'S TREASURE WHEN SUDDENLY A VOICE SOUNDED FROM BEHIND. "WELL, WELL -- WHAT A QUAINT RENDEZVOUS!"
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TARZAN AND GEORGE SPUN AROUND, HOPING TO DEFEND THEMSELVES, BUT THEY WERE TOO LATE ---

INTENSE FURY REPLACED CROSSED SARCASM AS HE AIMED HIS RIFLE FOR THE KILL!

WITH SPLIT-SECOND TIMING, TARZAN SPRANG TOWARD CROSS, THE MAN RE-COILED, FIRED DESPERATELY, BUT HIS SHOTS WENT WILD--
WWW.OLDCLANCY.COM

NOW THE TWO ENEMIES COLLIDED, GRAPPLED ON THE GROUND--A FRANTIC STRUGGLE FOR SURVIVAL!
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AFTER A FEW SAVAGE MINUTES, TARZAN OVERCAME HIS ENEMY, GRIPPED HIM IN A STRANGLEHOLD.
GEORGE RELAXED, THINKING THAT HIS LONG QUEST WAS OVER, BUT THEN --
WWW.JOEMANNIX.COM
SCREAMING NATIVE REINFORCEMENTS BURST THROUGH THE BRUSH. A LASSO DROPPED OVER TARZAN'S SHOULDERS, TIGHTENED, AND HE WAS INSTANTLY YANKED OFF THE PROSTRATE JIM CROW!
#28

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AS THE NATIVES CLOSED IN ON TARZAN, HE YELLED TO HIS COMPANION, GEORGE ROCKE, "GET AWAY, QUICKLY! I'LL BE ALL RIGHT!"
CURSING, JIM CRIGG GRABBED FOR HIS RIFLE. HOWEVER, THE FLEET-FOOTED ROCKE HAD ALREADY ESCAPED.
NOW JIM FACED THE APE-MAN SNEERING, "BUT YOU WON'T BE ALL RIGHT, MY FRIEND — YOU'LL BE SACRIFICED TO THE OCTOPUS GOD!"
www.jrbooks.com

GEORGE FOCKE ESCAPED, BUT TARZAN WAS SUBJECTED TO JUM CROSS' WRATH. "I, SPOKESMAN FOR THE OCTOPUS GOD, CHOOSE THIS MAN FOR SACRIFICE -- TOMORROW!"
THE NATIVES BOWED IN AWE. "AS YOU WISH, O VOICE OF KIAKA--"
"TAKE HIM TO THE VILLAGE," BELLOWED CROSS, "ALERT EVERYONE FOR THE CEREMONY!"

THE NATIVES LED TARZAN THROUGH THEIR VILLAGE, PAST THE GAPING INHABITANTS.
ABRUPTLY, HE WAS BOUND AND THROWN IN THE GLOOMY FISH-ON HUT TO AWAIT HIS FATE ---
MEANWHILE, VAN CROSS LOADED HIS PORT WITH THE BOOTY HE HAD ALREADY COLLECTED. AFTER TARZAN'S SACRIFICE, HE PLANNED A SECRET ESCAPE!
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DECIDING NOT TO PRESS HIS LUCK JIM CROSS STOCKED HIS BOAT. AFTER TARZAN'S DEATH, HE COULD ESCAPE WITH HIS FORTUNE.
BUT HIS FURTIVE ACTIONS WERE NOT ENTIRELY SECRET. GEORGE ROCKE WATCHED GRIMLY, DETERMINEDLY --
AND NEARBY, HATE-FILLED EYES PEERED OUT FROM ANOTHER PART OF THE BUSH, THOSE OF THE NATIVE, MOLU!
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... NIGHT PASSED IN THE VILLAGE OF THE LAKE PEOPLE. TARZAN WORKED FEVERISHLY AT HIS BONDS, BUT TO NO AVAIL---
THEN, AS LIGHT STREAKED THE SKY, OMINOUS DRUMBEATS ANNOUNCED THE DAY OF SACRIFICE!
AND PRESENTLY, TWO NATIVES BURST INTO THE HUT TO PREPARE THE APE-MAN FOR HIS DOOM!
4/05
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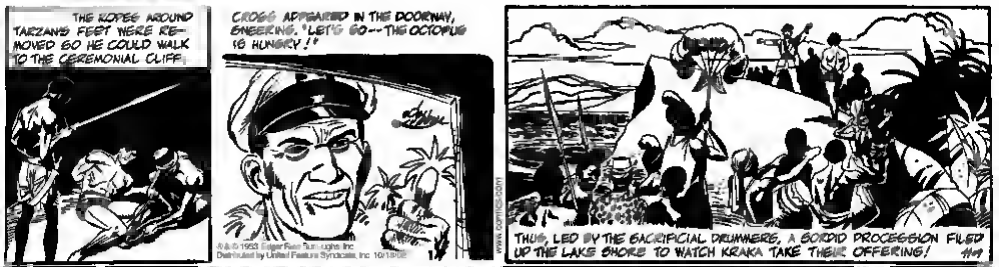
THE ROPES AROUND TARZAN'S FEET WERE REMOVED SO HE COULD WALK TO THE CEREMONIAL CLIFF.
CROGG APPEARED IN THE DOORWAY, SNEERING, 'LET'S GO--THE OCTOPUS IS HUNGRY!'
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THUS, LED BY THE SACRIFICIAL DRUMMERS, A SORDID PROCESSION FILED UP THE LAKE SHORE TO WATCH KRAKA TAKE THEIR OFFERING!

AT THE CLIFF'S EDGE, JIM CROSS QUICKLY BEGAN THE CEREMONY. BEFORE AN ENTRANCED AUDIENCE HE MOVED, GYRATED DRAMATICALLY--
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THEN THE DRUMS STOPPED AS CROSS TURNED TO TAR-ZAN, "IT IS TIME," HE HISSED.
AND NOW TWO STRONG NATIVES CLOSED IN TO ENFORCE THEIR LEADER'S COMMAND!

TWO MEMBERS OF THE SACRIFICIAL PARTY ADVANCED TO PUSH TARZAN OFF THE CLIFF--
HE SEEMED DESPONDENT, AS IF SUBMITTING TO DEFEAT--
www.comics.com
WHEN SUDDENLY HE SNAPPED UP HIS LEG--A TREMENDOUS KICK THAT CRASHED AGAINST THE FIRST NATIVE'S CHEST!

THE NATIVES FELL OFF BALANCE AND NOW TARZAN PIVOTED AND LEAPED TOWARD CROSE.
JIM DREW BACK IN ALARM, SENSING HIS ENEMY'S RECK-LESS PLAN, BUT TOO LATE—
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THE APE-MAN SUDDENLY THRUST HIS LEGS FORWARD AND SLAMMED INTO CROSE, TIGHTENING HIS MUSCLES IN A POWERFUL SCISSORS GRIP!
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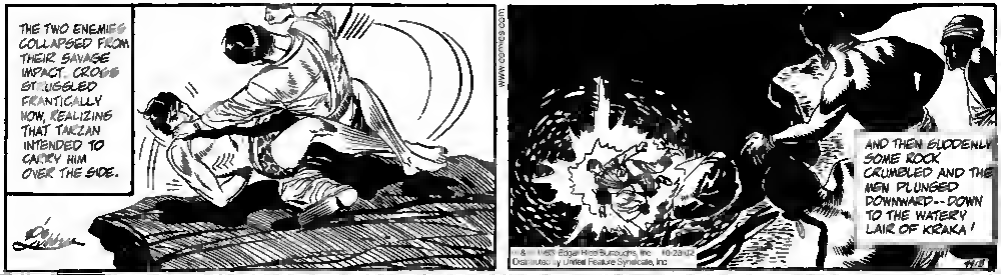
THE TWO ENEMIES COLLAPSED FROM THEIR SAVAGE IMPACT. CROOS STRUGGLED FRANTICALLY NOW, REALIZING THAT TARZAN INTENDED TO CARRY HIM OVER THE SIDE.
AND THEN SUDDENLY SOME ROCK CRUMBLED AND THE MEN PLUNGED DOWNWARD--DOWN TO THE WATERY LAIR OF KRAKA!
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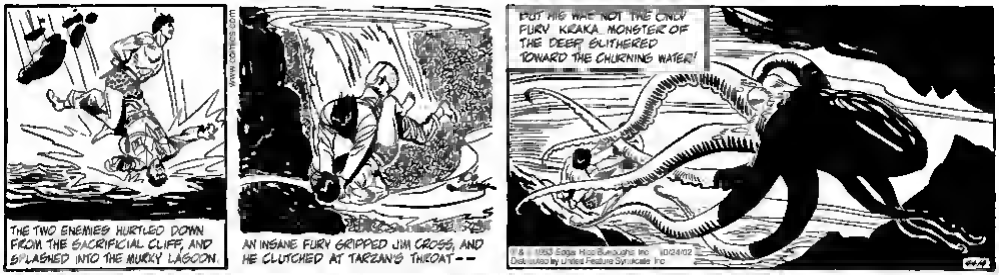
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THE TWO ENEMIES HURTLED DOWN FROM THE SACRIFICIAL CLIFF, AND SPLASHED INTO THE MURKY LAGOON.
AN INSANE FURY GRIPPED JIM CROSS, AND HE CLUTCHED AT TARZAN'S THROAT --
BUT HIS WAS NOT THE ONLY FURY. KRAKA, MONSTER OF THE DEEP, SLITHERED TOWARD THE CHURNING WATER!
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JUM CROSS'S FURY TURNED TO STARK TERROR, AS, NOW, A SLIMY TENTACLE COILED ABOUT HIS BODY, PULLED HIM AWAY FROM THE APE-MAN!
4of5
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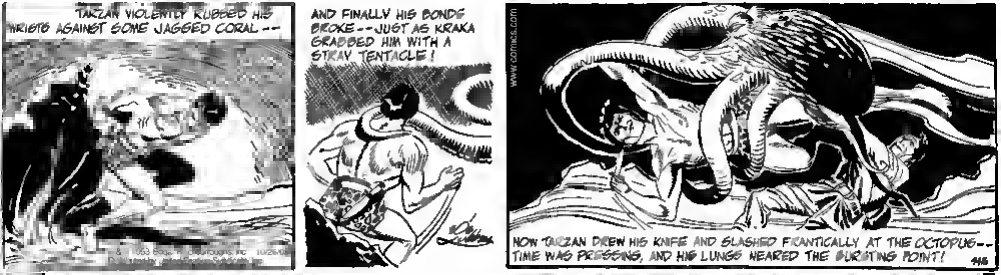
CROSS QUICKLY BECAME ENTANGLED IN A FRENZIED STRUGGLE FOR LIFE.
TARZAN SEARCHED FOR A SHARP LOCK. HE MUST FREE HIS HANDS OR ALL WOULD BE LOST!


TARZAN VIOLENTLY RUBBED HIS WRISTS AGAINST SOME JAGGED CORAL --
AND FINALLY HIS BONDS BROKE--JUST AS KRAKA GRABBED HIM WITH A STICKY TENTACLE!
NOW TARZAN DREW HIS KNIFE AND SLASHED FRANTICALLY AT THE OCTOPUS-- TIME WAS PRESSING, AND HIS LUNGS NEARED THE BURSTING POINT!
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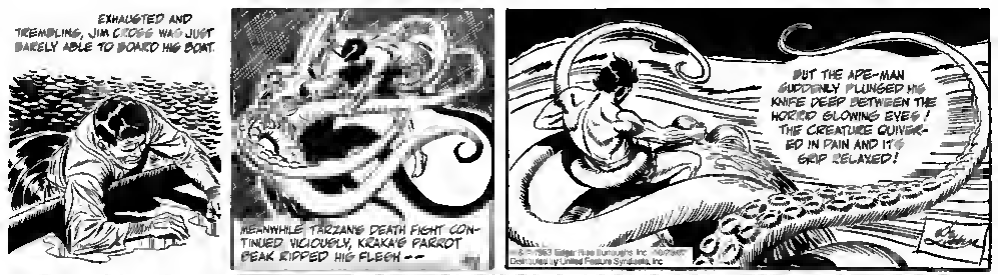
446

TARZAN AND JIM CROSS WERE PULLED INTO THE SLIMY EMBRACE OF THE OCTOPUS GOD FRANTICALLY NOW THE APE-MAN HACKED AT CLINGING TENTACLES!
WOUNDED BY THE SLASHING KNIFE, KIRAKA RELEASED CROSS TO VENT HIS FURY ON TARZAN!
IN A PAROXYSM OF TERROR JIM SURFACED AND, WITH FLAILING ARMS, SWAM TO HIS BOAT!
4/17


EXHAUSTED AND TREMBLING, JIM CRIGG WAS JUST BARELY ABLE TO BOARD HIS BOAT.
MEANWHILE TARZAN'S DEATH FIGHT CONTINUED VICIOUSLY, KRAKA'S PARROT BEAK RIPPED HIS FLESH --
BUT THE APE-MAN SUDDENLY PLUNGED HIS KNIFE DEEP BETWEEN THE HORRID GLOWING EYES! THE CREATURE QUIVERED IN PAIN AND IT'S GRIP RELAXED!
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FATALLY WOUNDED KĀKA SANK LIMPLY TOWARD THE BOTTOM OF THE LAGOON, WHILE TARZAN DESPERATELY HASTENED UPWARD!
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HE BURST THROUGH THE SURFACE, GULPING THE SWEET, FRESH AIR -- BUT HE WAS SOON DISTRACTED BY JIM CROW'S MAKING GOOD HIS ESCAPE!
4-19

TARZAN SWAM BACK TO THE SHORE WHERE HE WAS GREETED JUBILANTLY BY THE LAKE PEOPLE FOR KILLING KA'AKA
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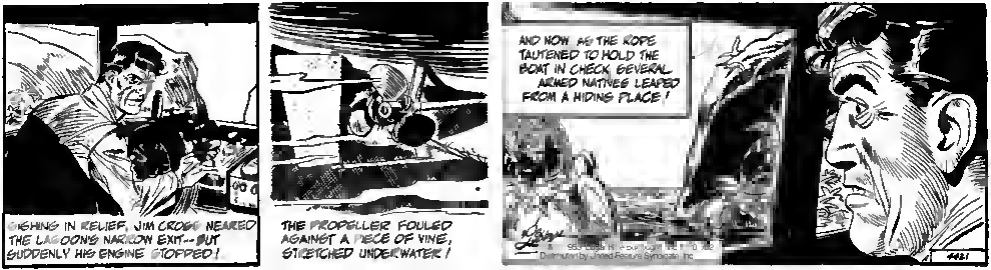
YET HE RESPONDED DEJECTEDLY, "YOUR REAL ENEMY WAS CROBE, AND HE IS GETTING AWAY--"
"BUT HE IS NOT, TARZAN," EXCLAIMED ONE MAN SUDDENLY. "LOOK!"


SIGHING IN RELIEF, JIM CROCE NEARED THE LAGOON'S NARROW EXIT--BUT SUDDENLY HIS ENGINE STOPPED!
THE PROPELLER FOULED AGAINST A PIECE OF VINE, STRETCHED UNDERWATER!
AND NOW AS THE ROPE TAUTENED TO HOLD THE BOAT IN CHECK, SEVERAL ARMED NATIVES LEAPED FROM A HIDING PLACE!
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4-21

A BITTER FIGHT COMMENCED -- AND NOW THE LEADERS, GEORGE ROCKE AND MOLU, WERE SEEN GIVING ENCOURAGEMENT TO THEIR COMPANIONS!
#22
MEANWHILE, THE APE-MAN HAD BEEN ALERTED AND SPED TO THE SCENE--
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AND GOOD THING, FOR ONE OF GROCKE'S DESPERATE RIFLE SHOTS SUDDENLY FELLED GEORGE ROCKE!

TARZAN SPED TO THE SCENE OF BATTLE BETWEEN JIM CROSS AND GEORGE ROCKER'S NATIVE WARRIORS--
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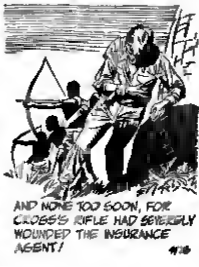
AND NONE TOO SOON, FOR CROSS'S RIFLE HAD SEVERELY WOUNDED THE INSURANCE AGENT!
4-18

FURIOUS, THE NATIVES UNLEASHED A BARRAGE OF MISSILES. JIM PANICKED NOW, AND DOVE OFF THE PROTECTED SIDE OF HIS BOAT.

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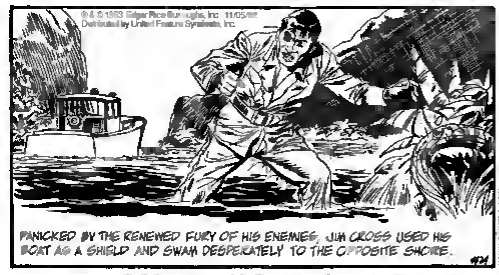
PANICKED BY THE RENEWED FURY OF HIS ENEMIES, JIM CROSS USED HIS BOAT AS A SHIELD AND SWAM DESPERATELY TO THE OPPOSITE SHORE.

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THE NATIVES CHEERED EXCITEDLY AS THE APE-MAN DOVE INTO THE WATER...

CLOSS LOOKED BACK FROM THE OPPOSITE SHORE; HIS FACE TURNED DEATHLY PALE AT THE SIGHT OF TARZAN---
www.ERBzone.com

STROKING SWIFTLY AND POWERFULLY, THE APE-MAN CLOSED THE GAP!

TARZAN STRUCK BOTTOM ON THE OTHER SHORE AND LEAPED IN PURSUIT OF JIM CROSS--
-- WHO WAS ALREADY MANY PRECIOUS YARDS AWAY, PLUNGING WILDLY THROUGH THE THICK UNDERBRUSH.
BUT A CUNNING PLAN SUDDENLY HALTED HIS FLIGHT-- HE SAW A CHANCE TO AMBUSH HIS ENEMY!
4/24
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JIM CONTINUED HIS TRAIL SOME DISTANCE FORWARD, THEN BACKTRACKED TO A TREE AND SHINNIED UP THE TRUNK.
#27
SMILING NOW, HE DREW A KNIFE AND CRAWLED TO AN OVERHANGING LIMB.
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PRESENTLY THE APE-MAN APPEARED, UNAWARE OF DANGER, FOR GROGS WAS ABOVE THE LINE OF SCENT!
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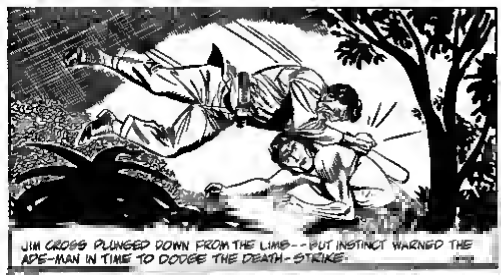
JIM CROSS PLUNGED DOWN FROM THE LIMB--BUT INSTINCT WARNED THE APE-MAN IN TIME TO DODGE THE DEATH-STRIKE.

NOW THE TWO ENEMIES FACED EACH OTHER. CROSS, WILD-EYED AND SNARLING, ADVANCED WITH THE DESPERATION OF A TRAPPED BEAST.
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A DEATH-FIGHT PROCLAIMED AS JIM CROSS DESPERATELY FACED THE LORD OF THE JUNGLE.
THE MAN CIRCLED WARILY. TARZAN WAS POISED, WAITING FOR AN OPENING...
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THEN, IN FRENZIED HASTE, CROSS LEAPED FORWARD WITH A SLASHING STROKE -- BUT HIS AGILE ENEMY ARCHED AWAY!

FALSELY CONFIDENT, JIM STRUCK AGAIN, A CARELESS, DOWNWARD BLOW THAT WAS EASILY BLOCKED--
AND COUNTERED, AS NOW TARZAN DRIVES A LETHAL THRUST INTO CROSBY'S MIDSECTION --- A BLOW TO END THE MADMAN'S CAREER OF MURDER!
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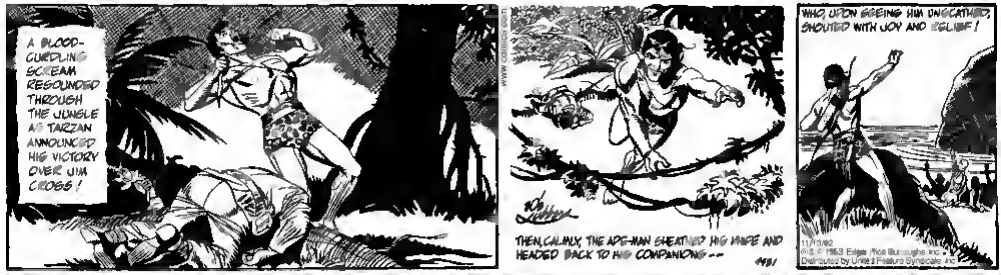
A BLOOD-CURDLING SCREAM RESOUNDED THROUGH THE JUNGLE AS TARZAN ANNOUNCED HIS VICTORY OVER WIM GROSS!
THEN, CALMLY, THE APE-MAN SHEATHED HIS KNIFE AND HEADED BACK TO HIS COMPANIONS --
WHO, UPON SEEING HIM UNSCATHED, SHOUTED WITH JOY AND RELIEF!
11/13/92
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GEORGE ROCKE WAS CONTENT. HIS ENEMY HAD SUCCUMBED, AND THE SILVER BULLION WAS STOCKED FOR TRANSPORT. THANKING TARZAN PROFUSELY, HE BID FAREWELL.
NOW, AS STOCKSMAN, THANKED TARZAN FOR RELEASING HIS PEOPLE FROM KIKAKI'S TERROR.
THUS THE APE-MAN DEPARTED, UNAWARE THAT FATE ALREADY GUIDED HIM TOWARD A NIGHTMARISH ADVENTURE!
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... HUNGER PANGS DISTURBED THE APE-MAN AND HE SPED TOWARD THE GRASSY HABITAT OF BARA, THE DEER.
HE PAUSED AT THE FRINGE OF THE JUNGLE, NOSTRILS QUIVERING FOR THE S. OOR--
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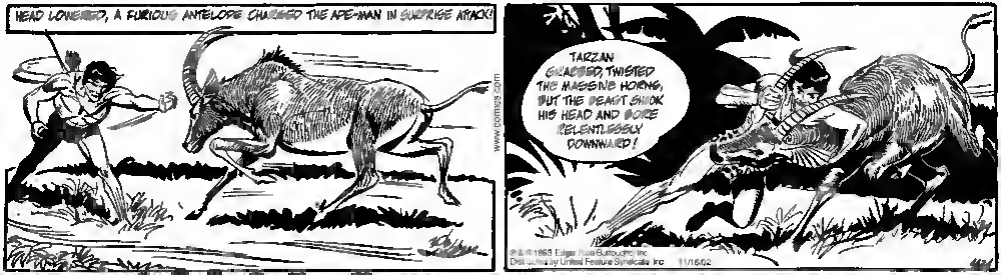
WHEN SUDDENLY, FROM A HIDING PLACE DOWNWIND, A SABLE ANTELOPE SNORTED, AND CHARGED TOWARD HIM!


HEAD LOWERED, A FURIOUS ANTELOPE CHARGED THE APE-MAN IN SURPRISE ATTACK!
TARZAN GRABBED, TWISTED THE MASSIVE HORNS, BUT THE BEAST SHOOK HIS HEAD AND BORE RELENTLESSLY DOWNWARD!
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A SABLE ANTELOPE CHARGED, THREATENED TO GRIND TARZAN TO A PULP. ITS BREATH WAS HOT AND FOUL AND CAME IN AGONIZED SPASMS—
AND THEN, STRANGELY, THE CREATURE SHUDDERED AND COLLAPSED!
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TARZAN WAS ASTONISHED—WHAT PROMPTED THIS UNUSUAL ATTACK?

TARZAN HAD SLAIN THE ANTELOPE AND SAW THAT IT HAD BEEN FIRED UPON BY A CARELESS HUNTER --
THUS LEFT TO DIE, IT ASSUMED THE FURY OF ANY WOUNDED ANIMAL -- SUDDENLY NOW, TARZAN HEARD A DISTANT SHOT.
SECONDS PASSED AND THEN THERE WAS A CRASHING OF BRUSH AS A TERRIFIED NATIVE STUMBLED BLINDLY TOWARD THE APE-MAN!
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TARZAN INTERCEPTED A FRIGHTENED NATIVE, A GUN BEARER. "WHAT'S GOING ON?" HE DEMANDED.
THE MAN JABBERED EXCITEDLY. "SHE IS CRAZY--SHOOTS AT EVERYTHING. I'M NOT GOING TO BE KILLED BY WOUNDED ANIMALS!"
THE APE-MAN PONDERED--A WOMAN? THEN, RACING TO THE SCENE, HE SAW A WHITE HUNTRESS...NOW FIRING INEFFECTIVELY AT A VICIOUS LION!
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THE HUNTRESS SCREAMED WHEN HER LATEST INTENDED VICTIM, A SNARLING LION, CHARGED AFTER HER--
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BUT SUDDENLY THERE WAS A FIERCE, RINGING CHALLENGE-- AND NOW A SPEEDING BRONZED GIANT LEAPED TO INTERCEPT THE WOUNDED BEAST!
443

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THUNDERING ROARS RESOUNDED ACROSS THE PLAIN, BUT SOON DIMINISHED AS TARZAN'S KNIFE PIERCED THE LION'S MIGHTY HEART!
THEN HE STORMED OVER TO THE DUMBFOUNDED GIRL, YANKED THE RIFLE FROM HER HANDS——
AND DELIBERATELY SMASHED IT AGAINST A NEARBY ROCK!
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AFTER SNATCHING THE GIRL'S RIFLE, TARZAN SPOKE IN DISGUST. "I SHOULD HAVE ALLOWED THE LION TO GET YOU --"
"KILLING YOURSELF IS YOUR OWN BUSINESS -- BUT YOU CAN'T GO ON WOUNDING ANIMALS AND ENDANGERING OTHERS!"
THE GIRL'S EYES BLAZED WITH INDIGNATION. "HOW DARE YOU -- YOU SAVAGE! AND THEN, SUDDENLY, SHE SLAPPED THE APE-MAN ACROSS THE FACE!
www.comics.com

AFTER BEING REBUKED BY TARZAN, THE WHITE HUNTRESS FUMED "NO ONE TREATS BETTY COLE LIKE THAT"--- AND PROMPTLY SLAPPED HIS FACE!
A RIDICULOUS SITUATION, BUT THE APE-MAN ACTED ACCORDINGLY. HE GRABBED THE POUTING GIRL---
www.Comics.com
FLIPPED HER OVER HIS KNEE AND, DESPITE HER HOWLS, PREPARED TO SPANK HER, THOROUGHLY AND EFFICIENTLY!
11/05/48
#41

AFTER ALMOST GIVING BETTY COLE A DESERVED SPANK, TARZAN STRODE AWAY. THE GIRL HESITATED THEN CRIED, "WAIT!"

"YOU CAN'T LEAVE ME LIKE THIS," SHE EXCLAIMED. "MY BEARER RAN OFF. I'M LOST --ALL ALONE--"
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BETTY FLUSHED UNDER THE APE-MAN'S COLD STARE. "ALL RIGHT, I--I APOLOGIZE. NOW WILL YOU HELP ME?"

"YOU HAD A GUIDE?" ASKED TARZAN, "THE WHITE HUNTER?" - "YES," REPLIED BETTY, "ONLY HE WAS TAKEN ILL A FEW MILES BACK."
SHRUGGING, THE APE-MAN DID BETTY FOLLOW WHILE HE EXPERTLY BACK-TRACKED TO HER CAMP.
SILENCE PREVAILED, SO TARZAN INVESTIGATED ONE OF THE TENTS -- AND THERE FOUND THE ILL HUNTER DELIRIOUS FROM BLACKWATER FEVER!

BETTY COLE'S WHITE HUNTER WAS IN A BAD CONDITION TARZAN WORKED HER HARD AND LONG IN HIS EFFORTS TO SAVE THE FEVERISH VICTIM---
BUT TO NO AVAIL--AFTER SEVERAL HOURS, THE MAN CONVULSED AND LAY STILL.
TARZAN GRIMACED THROUGH ILL-FATED CIRCUMSTANCE HE WAS NOW RESPONSIBLE FOR THIS SPOILED SOCIALITE!
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CIRCUMSTANCES MADE THE APE-MAN RESPONSIBLE, AS ESCORT, TO SEE THAT BETTY COVE REACHED THE COAST.

IT PROVED AN ARDUOUS JOURNEY BUT TARZAN WAS UNSYMPATHETIC SHE CARRIED A HEAVY PACK -- AND AT NIGHT DID THE CAMPING CHORES

BETTY RESENTED HIS DISCIPLINARY PROGRAM AND, FOR SPITE, DECIDED TO TAKE A SHORT STROLL -- LITTLE KNOWING THAT EVIL EYES WATCHED, WAITED FOR HER IN THE BLACKNESS . . .
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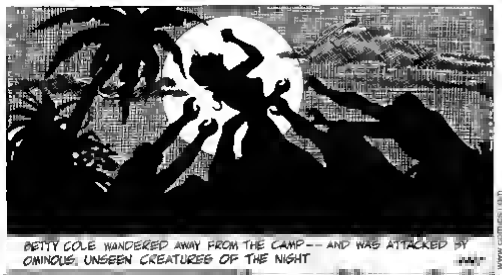
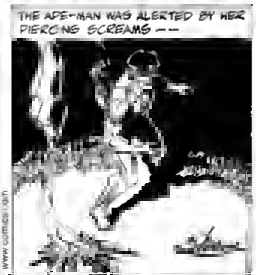
FRIGHTENED BY THE JUNGLE NOISES, YET TOO PROUD TO TURN BACK, BETTY STROLLED AWAY FROM THE CAMP'S EDGE...
TARZAN DECIDED TO LET HER GO, BUT SOON REGRETTED IT WHEN HE HEARD A PIERCING SCREAM--
www.comics.com
FOR NOW STRANGE UNSEEN CREATURES ATTACKED THE GIRL— SLIMY HANDS CLUTCHED AT HER, PULLED HER TO THE GROUND!


BETTY COLE WANDERED AWAY FROM THE CAMP -- AND WAS ATTACKED BY OMINOUS, UNSEEN CREATURES OF THE NIGHT


THE APE-MAN WAS ALERTED BY HER PIERCING SCREAMS --
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BUT WHEN HE REACHED THE AREA THERE WAS NO SPOOR -- THE GIRL HAD COMPLETELY VANISHED !
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TARZAN SEARCHED DILIGENTLY AND BY MORNING FOUND A NATIVE VILLAGE. THERE, PERHAPS, HE COULD FIND THE ANSWER TO BETTY'S DISAPPEARANCE.
BUT A HOSTILE SENTRY WAITED IN HIS PLACE OF CONCEALMENT--
-- UNTIL THE APE-MAN PASSED BELOW. THEN, WITH A BLOOD-CURDLING YELL, HE SPRANG!
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A NATIVE AMBUSHED THE APE-MAN BUT HE WAS NO MATCH FOR THE POWER OF HIS INTENDED VICTIM
"WAIT!" HE PLEADED. "RUMU MEANT NO OFFENSE --- I THOUGHT YOU WERE AN ENEMY!"
TARZAN ACQUIESCED, RELEASED THE MAN. "ALL RIGHT, TAKE ME TO THE CHIEF. I WANT TO ASK SOME QUESTIONS."
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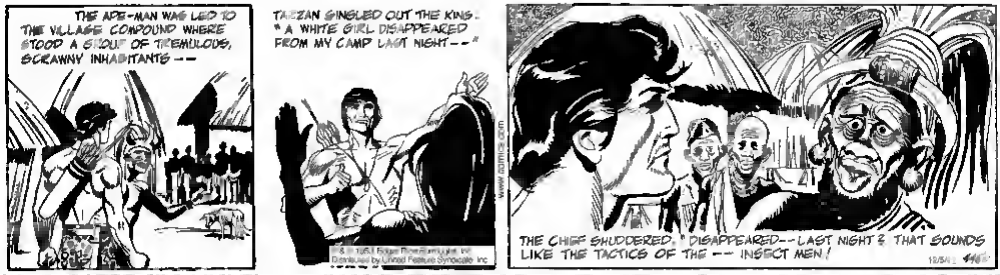
THE APE-MAN WAS LED TO THE VILLAGE COMPOUND WHERE STOOD A SCORE OF TREMULOUS, SCRAWNY INHABITANTS --
TARZAN SINGLED OUT THE KING: "A WHITE GIRL DISAPPEARED FROM MY CAMP LAST NIGHT--"
THE CHIEF SHUDDERED. "DISAPPEARED--LAST NIGHT? THAT SOUNDS LIKE THE TACTICS OF THE -- INSECT MEN!
12/31/
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"THAT MOUNTAIN IS THE HOME OF THE TERRIBLE INSECT MEN," SAID THE KING. "THEY DWELL UNDERGROUND, AND EMERGE AT NIGHT TO PILLAGE AND PLUNDER."
"THEY HAVE STALKED US, TAKEN SLAVES - TO REGIST IS USELESS."
"IT IS NOT USELESS!" TARZAN EXCLAIMED. "STOP BEING COWARDS AND JOIN ME. WE'LL DESTROY THESE CREATURES!!!"

THE APE-MAN'S FIERY SPEECH INSPIRED THE NATIVES AND SEVERAL OFFERED TO FIGHT.
REMU ALSO VOLUNTEERED. "YOU SPARED MY LIFE," HE STATED WITH APPARENT GRATITUDE. "I WILL BE YOUR MOST LOYAL AIDE."
BUT REMU SNEERED WHEN TARZAN TURNED AWAY. HIS EYES WERE COLD AND CONTEMPTUOUS -- THE EYES OF A TRAITOR!
4482
12/7/09
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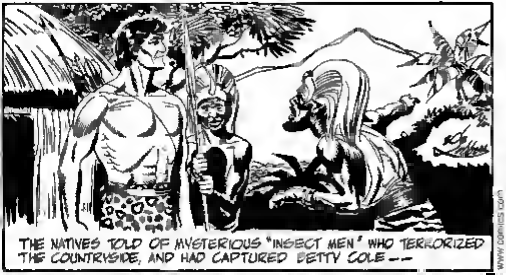
THE NATIVES TOLD OF MYSTERIOUS "INSECT MEN" WHO TERRORIZED THE COUNTRYSIDE, AND HAD CAPTURED BETTY COLE--
TARZAN CONVINCED THE BRAVEST OF THE WARRIORS TO JOIN HIM AND WAGE BATTLE AGAINST THE ENEMIES.
REMU, TOO, VOLUNTEERED, BUT HIS WAS AN EVIL PLAN--ONE TO BRING TROUBLE FOR THE TRUSTING APE-MAN!
4/59
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THE LITTLE BAND MARCHED BRAVELY ACROSS THE PLAINS TOWARD THE EVIL HOME OF THE MYSTERIOUS INSECT MEN.
TARZAN, UNSUSPICIOUS, WOULD OFTEN FOLLOW REMU'S SUGGESTIONS --
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FINALLY THEY CAME TO THE BASE OF THE MOUNTAIN -- AND REMU DISCOVERED A SECRET PASSAGE!
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NERVOUSLY NOW, THE NATIVES CAME CLOSER TO THE OPENING. "I'LL SEE IF THERE IS DANGER" AND RENU
"NO," REPLIED TARZAN FIRMLY, "YOU WAIT HERE -- I'LL GO ALONE."
www.comics.com
ABRUPTLY THE APE-MAN DEPARTED-- WHILE RENU SULKED IN ANGER!
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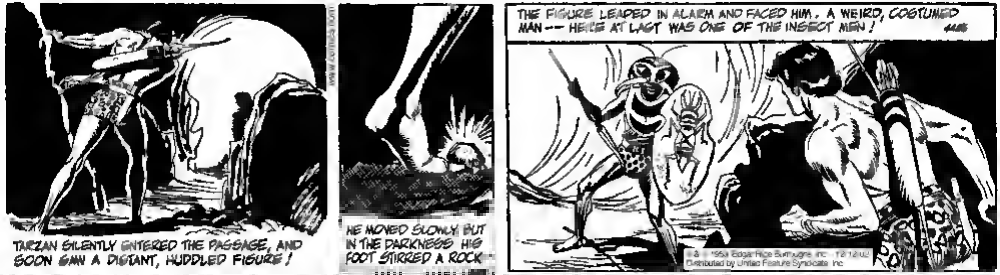
TARZAN SILENTLY ENTERED THE PASSAGE, AND SOON SAW A DISTANT, HUDDLED FIGURE!
HE MOVED SLOWLY, BUT IN THE DARKNESS HIS FOOT STIRRED A ROCK
THE FIGURE LEAPED IN ALARM AND FACED HIM. A WEIRD, COSTUMED MAN -- HE, AT LAST WAS ONE OF THE INSECT MEN!
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THE INSECT MAN T RUST HIS SPEAR AT TARZAN—
— BUT A SWIFT ARM WARDED OFF THE WEAPON!
AND NOW, SNARLING IN RAGE, TARZAN SPRANG ONWARD THE CREATURE!
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DEATH CAME SWIFTLY AS TARZAN'S BLADE STRUCK THE HEART OF THE HIDEOUSLY DRESSED INSECT MAN!
BUT ANOTHER ENEMY WATCHED FROM THE SHADOWS--
AND, WHEN THE JUNGLE LORD DEPARTED, HE FLED DOWN A TUNNEL TO SOUND THE ALARM!
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TARZAN SILENCED ONE GUARD, BUT ANOTHER RAN SECRETLY TO SOUND THE ALARM!

MEANWHILE, THE APE-MAN CAME BACK TO HIS OWN MEN. "ALL CLEAR," HE WHISPERED...
www.comics.com

BOLDLY, THE WARRIORS ENTERED THE PASSAGE -- UNAWARE THAT THE EVIL INSECT MEN HAD BEEN WARNED, AND ALREADY PREPARED AN AMBUSH!
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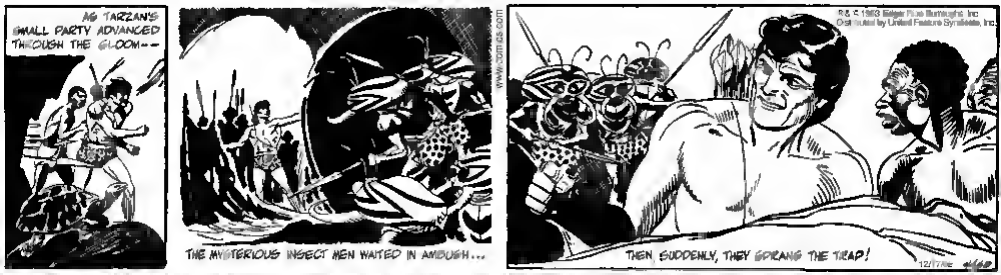
AS TARZAN'S SMALL PARTY ADVANCED THROUGH THE GLOOM--
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THE MYSTERIOUS INSECT MEN WAITED IN AMBUSH...
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Distributed by United Feature Syndicate, Inc.
THEN, SUDDENLY, THEY SPRANG THE TRAP!
12/17/72

WHILE TARZAN'S MEN BATTLED, THE CRAFTY REMU SNEAKED UP BEHIND THE APE-MAN...
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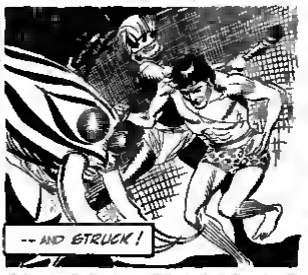
www.c-rics.com
-- AND STRUCK!

WHEN TARZAN COLLAPSED, THE NATIVES SURRENDERED, AND NOW REMU TOOK COMMAND OF THE VICTORS!

"TAKE THEM TO THE WORK TUNNEL," ORDERED REMU, "BUT THROW HIM IN A CELL!"
www.comics.com
"AND REPORT TO QUEEN LEERA," HE ADDED, "TELL HER OF MY LOYALTY!"
THEN AS TARZAN WAS TAKEN AWAY REMU WHISPERED TO ANOTHER SOLDIER, "THE SECRET CULT MEETS IN TUNNEL FIVE— AND BRING THE GIRL!"
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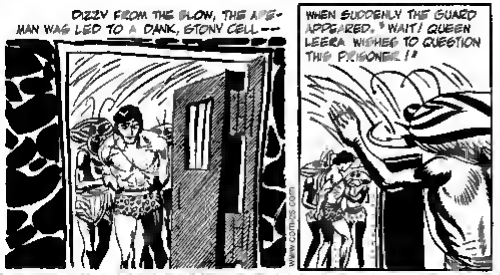
DIZZY FROM THE BLOW, THE APE-MAN WAS LED TO A DANK, STONY CELL --
WHEN SUDDENLY THE GUARD APPEARED. "WAIT! QUEEN LEERA WISHES TO QUESTION THIS PRISONER!"

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THE OTHERS GRUMBLED, BUT QUICKLY LED TARZAN TO THE PALACE FOR THE FIRST TIME HE SAW AND MARVELED AT A GREAT ROCK-HEWN CITY!

THE GUARDS BROUGHT TARZAN TO THE THRONE ROOM AND NOW HE STARTED IN SURPRISE—
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Distributed by United Feature Syndicate, Inc.
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FOR LESLA, QUEEN OF THE INSECT MEN, WAS A BEAUTIFUL WHITE WOMAN!
MEANWHILE, AT A SECRET MEETING, THE TREACHEROUS REMO PLOTTED AGAIN. THIS TIME TO INVOLVE BETTY COLE!

TARZAN WAS CALLED BEFORE THE QUEEN, WHO STARED, ADMIRING THE BRONZED CAPTIVE.
"THE GIRL--" ASKED THE APE-MAN, "YOU HAVEN'T HARMED HER?"
QUEEN LEERA GASPED, "WHAT GIRL?--REMU SAID NOTHING ABOUT A GIRL!"
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"YOUR MEN HAVE CAPTURED A WHITE GIRL," BEGAN TARZAN, "UNDER REMU'S ORDER!"
THE QUEEN NEEDED TO HEAR NO MORE. "GUARDS!" SHE CRIED, "CALL REMU AT ONCE!"
www.burnimes.com
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...MEANWHILE, AT A MEETING OF THE PLOTTERS, REMU SHOWED HIS PRIZE. "LOOK WELL -- GAZE UPON HER, QUEENLY BEAUTY!"
4466

"LET US UNITE," SHOUTED KEIMU. "PLACE A REAL QUEEN ON THE THRONE!"
BUT SUDDENLY A GUARD BURST INTO THE TUNNEL. "LEBERA KNOWS!" HE SHOUTED. "SHE KNOWS ABOUT THIS GIRL!"
"NOW IS THE TIME," CRIED KEIMU. "PUT THE GIRL IN A CELL AND FOLLOW ME!"
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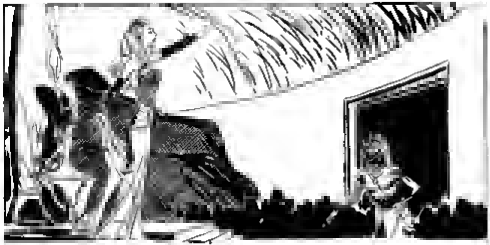
SOON AN EXCITED CROWD GATHERED AT THE PALACE, AS LEERA MET KEMU AT THE STEPS.

TARZAN WAS NEARBY, AND HEARD THE QUEEN'S DEMAND. "I WANT A REPORT ON ALL CAPTIVES!!"
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"AS YOU DESIRE, O QUEEN," ANSWERED KEMU. A GAME OF CAT AND MOUSE -- WHEN WOULD THE TENSION BREAK?
465

ZEMU POINTED TO TARZAN, "I HAVE CAPTURED FIFTEEN ABLE SLAVES, AS WELL AS THE GIANT STRONG MAN -- THIS I HAVE DONE BECAUSE OF MY LOYALTY--"
BUT QUEEN LEERA SENSED THE TRUTH. "ENOUGH, YOU LYING HYENA -- WHAT ABOUT THE -- GIRL ?!"
ZEMU PAUSED AT HER CHALLENGE. NOW ! NOW WAS THE TIME TO ACT !
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"SEIZE THE TRAITOR!" SCREAMED LEERA --
BUT REMU HAD ALREADY LEAPED INTO ACTION. HE GRABBED A SPEAR, AND...
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BEFORE THE GUARDS COULD ACT, HE CHARGED AT THE UNPROTECTED QUEEN!
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TARZAN AND THE OTHERS SAW A SHOWDOWN BETWEEN QUEEN LEERA AND RENNU. AND NOW --
THE TRAITOR GRABBED A SPEAR AND RACED TOWARD HER ---
www.comics.com
THEN, BEFORE THE OTHERS COULD STOP HIM, HE STRUCK A LETHAL BLOW!

AFTER ASSASSINATING THE QUEEN REMU CALLED TO THE THRONG, " FIGHT! FIGHT FOR THE NEW REGIME!"
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SWIFTLY NOW, TWO SIDES WERE FORMED FOR COMBAT. REMU'S REBELS AGAINST THE QUEEN'S LOYAL SOLDIERS!

TARZAN WAS FORCED TO ENTER THE FIGHT TO PROTECT HIMSELF.
HE QUICKLY DOWNED SEVERAL VICTIMS, BUT THEN --
HE HEARD A FIENDISH CRY -- THE TRAITOR REMU SOUGHT PERSONAL VENGEANCE!
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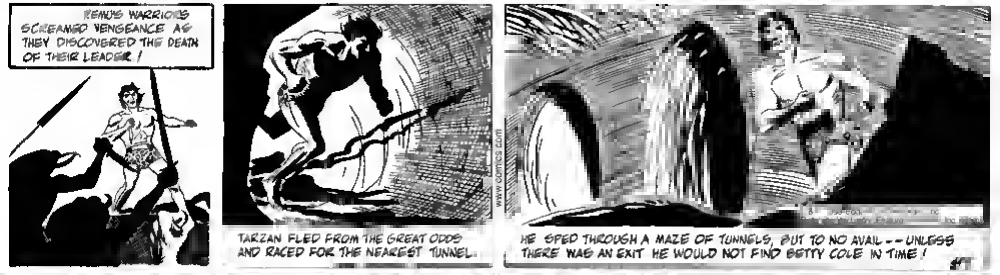
THEN, WITH A SWEEPING STROKE, HIS BLADE FOUND HIS MARK !


REINDS WARRIORS SCREAMED VENGEANCE AS THEY DISCOVERED THE DEATH OF THEIR LEADER!
TARZAN FLED FROM THE GREAT ODDS AND RACED FOR THE NEAREST TUNNEL.
www.comics.com
HE SPED THROUGH A MAZE OF TUNNELS, BUT TO NO AVAIL -- UNLESS THERE WAS AN EXIT HE WOULD NOT FIND BETTY COLE IN TIME!

FINALLY TARZAN'S SEARCH LED TO A DEEP ROCK PIT--
HE CLIMBED DOWN CAREFULLY-- DOWN INTO BLACKNESS AS HIS PURSUERS PASSED ABOVE--
BUT HE WAS NOT ALONE -- A MYSTERIOUS, OMINOUS FIGURE MOVED SILENTLY IN THE SHADOWS!
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TARZAN ELUDED THE INSECT MEN BY HIDING IN A DARK CAVITY -- BUT NOW THE MYSTERIOUS FIGURE THREATENED TO STRIKE - - -
THEN, STRANGELY, HE HEARD A GASP, AND A LARGE ROCK CAME CLATTERING HARMLESSLY AT HIS FEET - -
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DROPPED BY A PITIFUL BETTY COLE - - FEAR-CRAZED FROM HER ORDEAL IN THE PIT!
4477

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THE TWO FUGITIVES EXPLORED THE DANK AND GLOOMY PIT, SEARCHING FOR AN EXIT---

WHEN SUDDENLY---
BETTY SCREAMED IN HYSTERIA--
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FOR A HORRID MONSTROUS REPTILE BURST THROUGH THE SURFACE OF THE INKY WATERS!
4-4-19
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AWED, BUT UNDAUNTED, TARZAN MET THE CHALLENGE OF THE SLIMY LIZARD.
BETTY WAS FASCINATED, COMPELLED TO WATCH THE SAVAGE SPECTACLE---
SINEWY LEGS GRIPPED THE GROTESQUE, SCALY BODY; TARZAN'S KNIFE STRUCK REPEATEDLY, UNTIL AT LAST THE CREATURE QUIVERED AND COLLAPSED!
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AFTER KILLING THE LIZARD, TARZAN MADE A STARTLING DISCOVERY, THE WATER WAS MOVING – A SLOW, BUT UNMISTAKABLE CURRENT!

THAT MEANT THERE HAD TO BE AN EXIT. QUICKLY NOW, HE PICKED BETTY OFF THE ROCKS --
P. Lyttle
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AND NONE TOO SOON, FOR THE INSECT MEN'S EXTENSIVE SEARCH FINALLY BROUGHT THEM TO THE PIT!
449

AMIDST A BARRAGE OF ENEMY SPEARS, TARZAN CARRIED BETTY TO A ROCK WALL THAT SEEMINGLY CONFINED THE PIT - -
BUT NOW THEY DUCKED BELOW THE SURFACE AND SWAM DESPERATELY DOWN A SUBTERRANEAN RIVER!
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HOPING TO ESCAPE FROM THE INSECT MEN TARZAN AND BETTY COLE SWAM UNDERWATER DOWN A SUBTERRANEAN RIVER
SOON THE GIRL'S LUNGS CHOKED; SHE ATTEMPTED TO SURFACE, BUT STRUCK THE ROCKY CEILING!
HOWEVER, THE APE-MAN SNATCHED HER AND PROCEEDED, DEFYING A WATERY GRAVE!
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FINALLY THERE WAS A BLAZE OF LIGHT; THE CAVERN ENLARGED AND THE TWO COMPANIONS STAGGERED OUT-- OUT INTO THE OPEN AIR AND FREEDOM!
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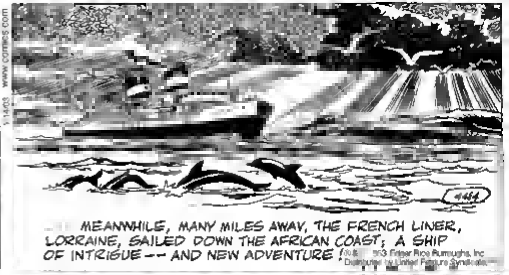
MEANWHILE, MANY MILES AWAY, THE FRENCH LINER, LORRAINE, SAILED DOWN THE AFRICAN COAST; A SHIP OF INTRIGUE -- AND NEW ADVENTURE!
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HAPPY VACATIONERS SWARMED THE DECK OF THE FRENCH LINER LORRAINE. THERE WAS LAUGHTER AND GAIETY—
BUT IN THE DARK HOLD BELOW THERE WAS MISERY, A PATHETIC CREATURE IN HIDING—
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BOB Lubbers
1-15-03
JACQUES DURAND, ONCE A FAMOUS PHYSICIAN— NOW, THROUGH HORRIBLE CIRCUMSTANCE, A FUGITIVE!
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...SILENCE, BLACKNESS ENVELOPED THE LORRAINE -- AND JACQUES DURAND SNEAKED TO THE GALLEY FOR FOOD --
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BUT SUDDENLY THE CHEF APPEARED. "MON DIEU!" HE EXCLAIMED -- "A STOWAWAY!"
THE CHEF SCREAMED, SLASHED OUT WITH A CARVING KNIFE WHILE DURAND FLED IN PANIC!
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THE SHIP'S OFFICERS WERE ALERTED BY THE SCREAMING CHEF AND THE TRAPPED DURAND ON DECK.
NOW WITH NO OTHER ALTERNATIVE HE CLIMBED TO THE RAILING —
—AND QUICKLY LEAPED OVER THE SIDE !
SPLASH!
Oh, Sweetheart
1952
1452
www.comma.com

... THE MORNING SUN SHONE BRIGHTLY ON TARZAN AND BETTY COLE. REFRESHED, THEY RENEWED THEIR TREK TO THE COAST WHERE SHE COULD BE TRANSPORTED HOME --
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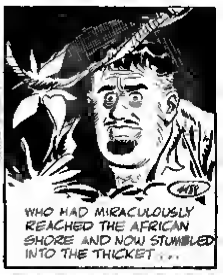
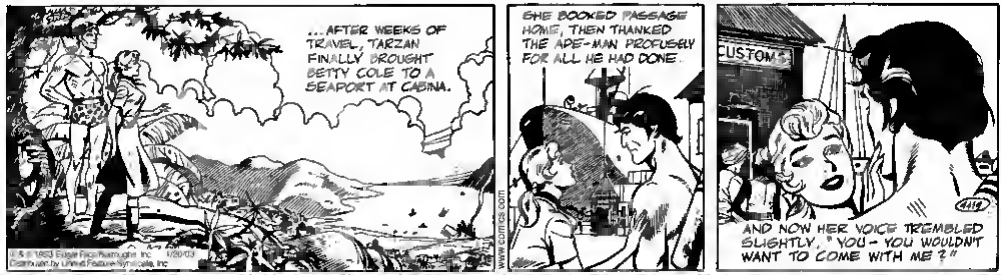
AND THE SUN ALSO SHONE ON THE SUN-DRENCHED FIGURE OF -- JACQUES DURAND --


WHO HAD MIRACULOUSLY REACHED THE AFRICAN SHORE AND NOW STUMBLED INTO THE THICKET ...


...AFTER WEEKS OF TRAVEL, TARZAN FINALLY BROUGHT BETTY COLE TO A SEAPORT AT CABINA.
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SHE BOOKED PASSAGE HOME, THEN THANKED THE APE-MAN PROFUSELY FOR ALL HE HAD DONE.
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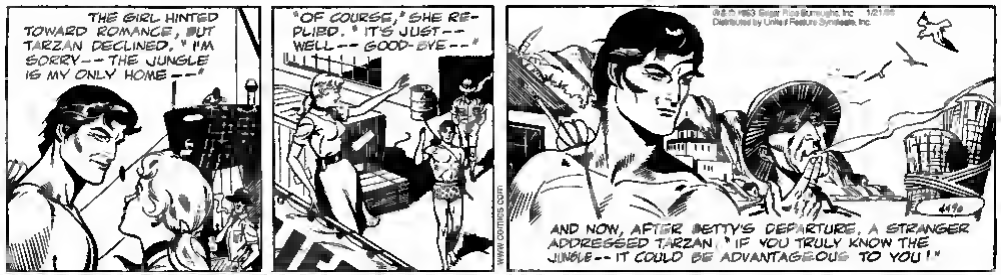
CUSTOMS
AND NOW HER VOICE TREMBLED SLIGHTLY, "YOU - YOU WOULDN'T WANT TO COME WITH ME?"


THE GIRL HINTED TOWARD ROMANCE, BUT TARZAN DECLINED. "I'M SORRY -- THE JUNGLE IS MY ONLY HOME --"
"OF COURSE," SHE REPLIED. "IT'S JUST -- WELL -- GOOD-BYE --"
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AND NOW, AFTER BETTY'S DEPARTURE, A STRANGER ADDRESSED TARZAN, "IF YOU TRULY KNOW THE JUNGLE -- IT COULD BE ADVANTAGEOUS TO YOU!"

"I'M FRANK GARVEY, REPRESENTING MONOPOLY FILMS," SAID THE MAN. "THEY WANT AUTHENTIC SHOTS OF WILD ANIMAL LIFE -- AT ANY COST!"
TARZAN HESITATED, THEN SHRUGGED, "THE PAY MEANS NOTHING, I'M GOING TO THE JUNGLE ANYWAY--COME ALONG IF YOU WISH."
FRANK TURNED, YELLING, "WE'RE IN, BOYS -- LET'S GO!" -- AND INSTANTLY THE MEMBERS OF A COMPLETE SAFARI MADE READY FOR DEPARTURE!
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...UNDER EXPERIENCED LEADERSHIP FROM TARZAN, THE MONOPOLY FILMS SAFARI SOON TRAVERSED EXPANSIVE PLAINS--
www.edgarrice.com

TEEMING ACTIVITY FOR GARVEY'S CAMERAMEN; HERDS OF ELAND, WILDEBEEST--AND THE GRACEFUL IMPALA!

"THIS IS BRIGAN," CONCLUDED THE CHIEF. "NOW, OF COURSE, I SEE, MY WARRIORS TO HELP THIS DEMON HOME WANT TO DIE LIKE WE DU!"
"FEAR NO MORE," SAID TARZAN CONSOLINGLY. "YOU CAN BE SURE THAT I--"
BUT SUDDENLY REMEMBERED TERROR FLASHED IN VARIOUS EYES AS A DISTANT EXPLOSION ECHOED THROUGH THE FOREST.

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TAKING LEAD OF VACUO, TARZAN TRACKED THE SPOOR OF THE MYSTERIOUS WHITE HUNTER.
THEN AT NIGHTFALL HE FOUND A LONE SENTRY IN DESERTED CAMP.
SOON RELUCTANT NATIVES LED TARZAN TO THE CLEARING LADEN WITH ELEPHANT TUSKS — JACK WEST AND JOHN PARKHURST.
GIVE UP YOUR GUNS!

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ALL RIGHT SNAP..! UP OVER THERE WITH THAT STUFF..! SNABJETD WHEAT SHOVVED BEATING VAKUS'S WIN
BUT HIS SUCCESS ENDED TRAGICALLY AS HE RAN A SAVAGE APPARITION LEAPT OUT FROM THE LEAFY FOLIAGE!
AHH

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TARZAN, LEARNING THAT AN IVORY POACHER NAMED JACK WEST WAS TERROR ZING THE NATIVES TRACKED HIM DOWN AND QUICKLY ATTACKED!
"WHAT'S GOING ON?? DEMAND THE APE-MAN. "WHAT'S BEHIND THESE EXPLOSIONS??
BUT WEST, ASHEN-FACED AND TREMBLING BEFORE THIS SNARLING GIANT WAS UNABLE TO ANSWER!

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DISGUSTED, TARZAN PLUNGES THE CRIMSON-WHITE MAN TO THE GROUND. "RELEASE THESE MEN AND DESCEND FROM THIS AREA, OR I SWEAR YOU AS MAN, I'LL KILL YOU!"
"YOU WON'T FIND ME AGAIN," MUMBLED WHITE, THEN HE ADDED SLYLY, "UNPREPARED..."
FOR HIS EYES DRIFTED TO SOME CRATES THAT ARE-MAN HAD QUIETLY PUT A SMALL ARMORY!

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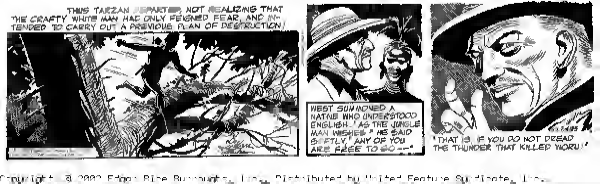
THUS TARZAN DEPARTED, NOT REALIZING THAT THE CRAFTY WHITE MAN HAD ONLY FEIGNED FEAR, AND INTENDED TO CARRY OUT A PREVIOUS PLAN OF DESTRUCTION!
WEBB SUMMONED A NATIVE WHO UNDERSTOOD ENGLISH. "AS THE JUNGLE MAN WISHES," HE SAID SLYLY. "ANY OF YOU ARE FREE TO GO."
"THAT IS, IF YOU DO NOT DREAD THE THUNDER THAT KILLED WORU!"

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THE NEXT DAY WEST LED HIS NATIVES TO AN OPEN SECTION BORDERED ON EITHER SIDE BY ROCK, AND HE TOLD THEM TO PREPARE DYNAMITE
THEN, LAYING WIRES OF LINE BACK TO A SAFE DISTANCE, HE SET OFF THE DETONATORS
"ALL RIGHT!" HE YELLED EXCITEDLY. "HURT! LYNN THE NEWS — TIME THINS THROUGH THE PASS!"

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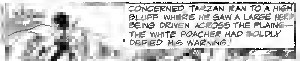
CONCERNED TARZAN RAN TO A HIGH BLUFF WHERE HE SAW A LARGE HERD BEING DRIVEN ACROSS THE PLAIN--
THE WHITE POACHER HAD BOLDLY DISPLAYED HIS WARNING.

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ONWARD TOWARD THE KILL LUMBERED THE HEAVY-HULL, SQUEALING MONSTERS -- DRIVEN BY A COHORT OF FRENZIED AND NOISY NATIVE BEATERS.

MEANWHILE, TARZAN SPEEDS TOWARD THE GRIM FASTNESS DEEP IN THE WEST -- A MAN AC WHO FEW THE SAME OF BEAUTY, WOULD BLOW UP A HERD OF ELEPHANTS FOR THEIR IVORY TUSKS.

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MUSCLES STRAINING, TARZAN SPED TOWARD THE CROUCHED FIGURE OF JACK WEST—
SIL
WHO, INTENT UPON BLOW-ING UP ELEPHANT HERD, WAS UNAWARE OF ANY DANGER
NOW WITHIN STRIKING DISTANCE, TARZAN AIMED CAREFULLY, PAUSED—THEN WAITED TENSELY FOR THE SHAFT TO REACH ITS TARGET!
HOW TARZAN OF THE APES SAVED JACK WEST'S LIFE!

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WITH A HOWL OF SURPRISE AND PAIN, WEST STUMBLED FORWARD, CRUSHED BY TARZAN'S ARM.
INCENSED BY THE WOUND, HE REACHED FOR THE PERPETRATOR—
JUST AS THE FIRST OF THE ELEPHANTS THUNDERED THROUGH THE PASS!

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"YOU'RE TOO LATE!" WEST SCREAMED HYSTERICALLY. THEN AS TARZAN WATCHED, HE INSERTED THE PLUNGER!
THERE WAS AN INSTANT VIOLENT EXPLOSION—AND TONS OF ROCK POURED DOWN ON THE ILL-FATED ELF-HANTEN!

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STUNNED BY THE TRAGEDY, TARZAN FAILED TO NOTICE THAT WISE NOW PLANNED HIS DEATH!
LUNGING, HE PULLED A HAND GRENADE FROM HIS BELT, UNLEASHED THE TIMER--
AND WEAVED IT TOWARD THE ASTONISHED APE-MAN!

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AS THE DEADLY GRENADE LOBBED THROUGH THE AIR, TARZAN QUICKLY LUNGED FORWARD—
CAUGHT IT, PIVOTED AND FLIPPED IT BACK AT HIS BALDING ENEMY!
AND THEN—
BOOM!

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